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RUSSELL ERRETT, Editor.

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The Pittsburgh Commercial.

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FIRST EDITION.

FOREIGN NEWS.

BY THE ATLANTIC CABLE

France.

THE LEFT CONGRATULATES LAFAYETTE.

PARIS, December 13.—At a meeting of the deputies of the Left, to-day, an address to M. Oscar de Lafayette was adopted, congratulating him on the flattering communications he recently received from the citizens of the United States.

Germany.

ARREST OF DEPUTIES DURING SESSIONS OF THE REICHSTAG.

BERLIN, December 13.—In the Reichstag, yesterday, Herr Lasker called attention to the arrest of Herr Majunke, a member of that body, and moved that the Committee on Standing Orders report as soon as possible if arrests of deputies during a session are admissible, and if so, how they can eventually be avoided. The motion was unanimously adopted. The Committee subsequently decided that the arrest of Herr Majunke was inadvisable, and recommended that the Reichstag demand his immediate liberation.

Minister of Justice De Leonhardt intends to resign on account of ill health.

THE ARNIM TRIAL.

The court trying Count Von Arnim was in secret session two hours, yesterday, when the most important documents, which have been withheld from the public, were read. The prosecution have warning that any person who published, or caused to be published, these documents would be considered as guilty of high treason. Baron Holstein will testify Monday, and counsel will begin their argument in the afternoon. The verdict will probably be postponed until next week.

England.

PARLIAMENT TO REASSEMBLE IN FEBRUARY.

LONDON, December 13.—Parliament will reassemble on the fifth of February.

Marine News.

LONDON, December 13.—Steamships City of Montreal and Silesia, from New York, and Indiana, from Philadelphia, arrived out.

BISHOP COLENSO SILENCED.

LONDON, December 14, 5:30 A. M.—The Bishop of London has prohibited Bishop Colenso from preaching in this diocese.

SPANISH RUMORS.

The correspondent of the *Daily News* at Bayonne, telegraphs that the report is in circulation there that General Lomayas died of wounds received in the last battle with the Carlists, but dispatches from San Sebastian, the General's headquarters, leave the report unconfirmed. Telegrams from Carlist sources assert that he was killed on the field.

European Markets.

LONDON, December 12, 5 P. M.—Rate for money at the Stock Exchange on Government securities 2¾ per cent. Consols for money 92⅝; for account 92⅝. United States bonds—5-20's, 1865, 102⅜; do 1867, 103⅜; 10-40's, 100; new 5's, 103. New York Central, 94; Erie, 24; do preferred 58. Tallow 46s@48s 3d.

PARIS, December 12.—Rentes 62 francs 87½ centimes.

FRANKFORT, December 12.—United States bonds—5-20's, 1862, 97¾.

LIVERPOOL, December 12.—Cotton dull; middling upland 7½d; Orleans 7¾@7¾d. Sales of 5,000 bales, including 1,000 for speculation and export and 4,800 American. Breadstuffs quiet. Shooders 38s. Sugar cured hams 98s.

RAILWAY MATTERS.

Annual Report of the Erie Company.

NEW YORK, December 12.—The report of President Jewett to the Directors of the Erie Railway Company is made public. A comparative statement of the gross earnings for the fiscal years ending the 30th of September, 1872 and 1874, shows a decrease of $1,413,707. A comparative statement of net earnings for the same period show a decrease of $1,358,803. The actual net earnings for the fiscal year 1874, were $5,025,160. The decrease in the gross earnings is attributed to the general depression in business, and, under the circumstances, is not excessive. The comparative statement of the working expenses for the same fiscal periods shows, a decrease of $76,904. The entire interest and rentals payable by the company for 1874, exclusive of that payable on account of the $3,000,000 of second consolidated mortgage bonds, final disposition of which was made by Mr. Gray while in London, amounted to $4,550,000, per annum in currency, equal to $833,827 per month. For the passing year there will have to be added to the above amount the interest on these $15,000,000 of bonds. On the 1st of July the floating debt was $2,414,208; on the first of the present month $1,521,615, showing a reduction by payments out of the earnings of $823,983, which has since been further reduced $100,000, leaving at the present debt $1,421,000 15 only. All the outstanding liabilities in Europe have been extinguished. We have no liabilities in that quarter except those which can be made upon us.

The company's offices were to-day removed to the old quarters at the foot of Duane street.

Utah Western and Southern Roads.

SALT LAKE, December 12.—The Utah Western Railroad will commence running regular trains west from here on Monday next. The road is now completed twelve miles, and will be continued west to Stockton as rapidly as possible.

The grading on the Utah Southern road is completed to Payson.

THE WEATHER.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER,
WASHINGTON, D. C., December 14, 1 A. M., 1874.

PROBABILITIES.

For Tennessee and the Ohio Valley, areas of light rain or snow, followed by clearing and colder weather, north or west winds and rising barometer. For the Lower Lake region and the Middle States, cloudy weather and rain or snow, winds shifting to westerly and northerly, rising barometer and lower temperature during Monday night. For the Canal regions of New York, Pennsylvania and Ohio, the temperature will fall decidedly during Monday night.

CASUALTIES.

Fatal Explosion in St. Louis.

ST. LOUIS, December 13.—A large iron tank in the purifying house of the St. Louis Gaslight Company exploded this afternoon, instantly killing Thomas Pratt, Chief Engineer of the works. Mr. Pratt had gone into the purifying house to examine the tanks, they not having worked satisfactorily for a day or two, and it is supposed he lighted a match to ascertain whether pure or impure gas was passing off, and the explosion followed with the above result. Mr. Pratt was an old citizen and a man of large wealth.

NEWS SUMMARY.

BY TELEGRAPH.

The steamer Greece, from London, has arrived at New York.

Two vessels have been wrecked off Santander, and eight lives lost.

Brigham Young and George A. Smith are still at St. George, Utah, in good health.

The steamer Vancouver sailed from San Francisco for Hong Kong and Yokohama on Saturday.

Professor Judd, who wanted to walk five hundred miles in six days and a half, in New York, failed on Saturday at the 360th mile.

The Buenos Ayres insurrection is over, and the Government has issued a proclamation granting amnesty to all political offenders.

The Vermont Reform School building, at Waterbury, was burned on Saturday. Loss fifty thousand dollars; insurance twenty-four thousand dollars.

Judgment has been entered in the Supreme Court of New York against the Samana Bay Company for twenty-four thousand six hundred and thirty-one dollars for arms supplied.

Potter Palmer, of Chicago, is out in a card denying the reports recently published concerning his domestic relations with his father-in-law, H. H. Honore, and his brother-in-law, Fred. D. Grant.

J. Trafnor King, editor of the Harrisburg *Sunday Dawn*, will to-morrow begin the publication of the *Daily Dawn* on the independent Democratic plan, with the avowed purpose of "handling without gloves the rogues, tricksters and time-servers who will now try to push themselves to the front" of the successful party.

The Indian Commissioners have ended the council at Muskogee, Indian Territory, and started home. They express themselves well pleased therewith, though nothing definite has been accomplished. There was a difference of opinion among the Indians on the subjects of a territorial form of government, a Legislature, a delegate in Congress, etc., and two sets of resolutions were presented to the Commissioners on these subjects.

A Reward is Offered

for a flour that will make as much or as good bread as the great White River, for the price.

BALTIMORE.

A Christian Clergyman Gives his Opinion of One of his Brethren.

BALTIMORE, December 12.—A number of persons assembled at Raines hall to-night to hear Rev. Daniel Sommer, pastor of the Dolphin street Christian Church, read a statement written by him, covering charges of alleged gross immorality and unministerial conduct generally against Rev. Alfred N. Gilbert, pastor of the Race street Christian Church. The audience included members of both congregations, and considerable feeling was manifested. One of Gilbert's friends arose and interrupted the reading by pronouncing the statement an infamous lie. At the conclusion of the reading another of Gilbert's parishioners declared that the charges were wholly false, and that Rev. Mr. Gilbert would in good time fully vindicate his character. Some confusion ensued, and at one time there was every indication that the meeting would wind up in a row.

NEW YORK.

NEW YORK, December 12, 1874.

TILTON AGAINST BEECHER.

This morning the attorneys for Tilton appealed from the order of Judge McCue granting a bill of particulars in the Tilton-Beecher case. The appeal is to the General Term and is on the ground that the Brooklyn Court should not limit the prosecution on the trial to the proof of any particular day. While the discretion of the Court in granting the order is not appealable to the Court of Appeals, that part of the order prohibiting the prosecution from proving any other acts than those specified is considered appealable. Plaintiff's lawyers say that if they desire it they will argue the appeal at the General Term, next week. Notice of appeal was served upon Beecher's attorney this morning.

BOY KIDNAPPED IN HOBOKEN.

John Neville, aged eight years, residing with his parents in West Hoboken, was kidnapped Thursday evening, while playing with a companion. They were met by a man driving a buggy, who asked them to take a ride. Neville consented.

NEW YORK, December 13, 1874.

SEIZURE BY CUSTOMS OFFICERS.

Three hundred gold and silver Swiss watches, in possession of William Wetzel, of Prairie du Chien, were seized yesterday by the customs officers on the steamer Cambria. They are valued at twenty-seven thousand francs.

AMERICAN TRACT SOCIETY.

The semi-centennial of the American Tract Society was held this evening. The annual report showed that the annual issues of these fifty years have averaged more than ten million publications, more than half a million of these being volumes. The cost of work during the past year was fifty thousand dollars. Grants have been made during the year to the number of sixty-eight million pages, and to the value of more than forty-five thousand dollars, which have been distributed through mission schools, prisons and hospitals. Gifts for foreign distribution, in the form of printed matter, amounted to four thousand dollars, and in cash and plates to be used in printing, to the amount of seven thousand dollars. More than four thousand publications have been issued abroad, and in one hundred and forty-three languages. Since the formation of the Society it has expended more than six hundred thousand dollars in co-operating with prominent American missions. Addresses were delivered by Rev. Drs. Tyng, Williams, Prait, Halleck and others.

CORONER CROKER'S CASE—THE JURY DISAGREE AND ARE DISCHARGED.

The trial of Coroner Richard Croker, on an indictment for killing John McKenna, was brought to a close at 7:30 Saturday evening and the case given to the jury. At midnight the jury, not having agreed, were locked up till this morning, when, being still unable to agree, they were discharged.

CRIMINAL RECORD.

Important Arrest of Counterfeiters in Northern Pennsylvania.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

ERIE, PA., December 13, 1874.

Gilbert B. Perkins, United States Secret Service detective, has arrested and brought to this city two shovers of the queer, named Benjamin F. Erway (mason), from Harrison Valley, Potter county,) and Nathan B. Adams, of Colesburgh, same county. Erway had been so successful in his business, and no bank being near his field of operations, that the currency of Harrison Valley is about the counterfeit. Perkins got track of him while tracing the famous Ballard gang, at Fort Erie, Canada, some time ago, but was not prepared to arrest him then. He was captured in Potter county. Adams was operating in McKean county, this State, when taken. Both men are supposed to belong to the Ballard gang. Most of the bills were well executed. The firm of the Traders' National bank, of Syracuse, New York, are undoubtedly of Tom Ballard's make. Both men are lodged here in jail, and will have a hearing before United States Commissioner Force Tuesday evening. Besides being shovers of the queer, they are charged with being wholesale dealers in spurious money.

Hilt, the Insurance Man.

PHILADELPHIA, December 12.—This morning bond in the sum of $20,000 was entered into for the appearance of George F. Hilt, the alleged dealer in forged bonds, at the United States Circuit Court, in New York on the 13th of January next.

A Columbus Girl Attempts Suicide.

COLUMBUS, December 12.—Annie Gallagher, a dining room girl at the Settler House, attempted to commit suicide to-night by taking a large dose of blue vitriol. Before taking the poison she dressed herself in her best, bought for the purpose, and retired to bed, taking the poison and a dagger with her. Soon after taking the poison she was discovered and a stomach pump secured. She can hardly recover. Unrequited love was the cause.

Murder and Suicide in Charlestown, Mass.

—The Parties Said to be Highly Respectable.

BOSTON, December 13.—A terrible double tragedy was enacted this afternoon at Charlestown, by Wm. H. Jones, of Somerville, who killed Mrs. O. R. Barry at her residence, on School street, Charlestown, and immediately afterward cut his own throat. Jones was married and had grown up children, and the two families were very intimate and considered highly respectable. The deed was doubtless premeditated, as it was done with a razor which Jones had taken with him from his home in Somerville. There were no witnesses to the terrible affair, the rest of the Barry family being at church. The bodies were found about half past three by the son of the murdered woman. They were lying upon the floor, about four feet apart, each with the throat cut.

POLITICAL.

State.

Judge Black, who is a candidate for the United States Senatorship in Pennsylvania at the hands of the Democratic Legislature, judging from his newspaper backers, has more friends out of his own State than in it. In a letter he talks of the "demoralization produced by fifteen years' domination of an anti-Constitution party." It will not prevent the people from recollecting that he was the principal counsel of the claimants in the great Chorpenning fraud, and that at Washington he has been generally recognized as the leading lawyer of the lobbyists.—*Baltimore American.*

General.

In Alabama the Democratic papers distinguish colored from plain members of the Legislature by putting "Mr." before the white men's names, and giving the negroes' names without title or any kind.

The Sacramento *Union was* one of the leading Republican papers of California. It *was* a very prosperous property. But it grew dictatorial, then sore-headed; and then it went into the "independent journal" business. Now it is publicly advertised for sale by its owners.

Harper's Weekly thinks that "no more preposterous proposition could now be made" than that of a monster scheme of "internal improvements" with a view to benefiting the Republican party. It says that "it is a suggestion for jobbery and corruption on the largest scale," and that "to propose such a scheme as a means of restoring the Republican party, is to offer to burn down the house to cook the dinner."

General Butler's new party does not impress the Chicago *Tribune* favorably. It throws several bucketfuls of very cold water upon the Essex statesman, and then tells him: "When Mr. Butler has rallied his constituency, he should summon Tweed as his lieutenant. Butler has shown preeminent ability in planning salary-grabs and other schemes; Tweed equal ability in executing them. The two combined would concentrate all the immorality and corruption of the country, and, once concentrated, the people could easily put an end to the leaders and their party."

Look Out for Dealers

that represent they have White River Flour under other brands. This is often done to make sales.

SECOND EDITION.

WASHINGTON.

SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE.

Repeal of the Legal-Tender Act Not Favored.

Redemption of Legal Tenders With a Gold Bond Favored.

THE NEW YORK SENATORSHIP.

Liberals Flirting With the President in Fenton's Interest.

HOAR'S RESOLUTION ON CONGRESSIONAL ARRESTS.

St. Clair and Carondelet Bridge Scheme

MR. NEGLEY TO MAKE HIS SPEECH TO-DAY.

A TEXAS PACIFIC FEELER IN THE HOUSE TO-DAY.

Arrival of King Kalakaua—Reception of His Majesty by Officials—His Illness and Enforced Quiet.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 13, 1874.

Senate Finance Committee.

There is a difference of opinion among the members of the Finance Committee whether to take up one of the several financial bills now on the Senate calendar, or whether it would be better to introduce a new bill designed in the way of a compromise to adjust the main points of difference between the opposing parties in the two Houses. The proposition to repeal the Legal-tender act does not meet with favor in the committee. The members state that such action would remove the only fixed basis of present business transactions. Their views, however, incline towards a measure which will indirectly bring the two to the same standard. This the committee think may be done by making the legal tenders redeemable in a gold bond at a fair rate of interest and to run a reasonable time. The Government securities are thought to afford reasonable grounds for the belief that such a measure as suggested would meet with public approval and would bring legal tenders up to a gold value. It is not at all improbable that the committee will introduce a bill with such a proposition as a prominent feature.

New York Senatorship.

A delegation of New York Liberal Republicans has arrived here to secure the recognition of Senator Fenton by the President, and to harmonize the differences between Mr. Fenton and Mr. Conkling. The argument is that the Liberal Republicans hold the balance of power in the Legislature, and they contend it is better to have a Senator like Mr. Fenton, who was formerly a Republican and occasionally acts with the Republican party, rather than permit the election of a straight-out Democrat.

Congressional Arrests.

The Judiciary Committee will, on Tuesday take up for consideration Mr. Hoar's Resolution to the enactment of a general law in relation to the arrest of parties who disobey the subpœnas of Congress, or are otherwise in contempt of either House. Under existing rules no man can be arrested except after the adoption of a formal resolution in open house, authorizing the Speaker or the President of the Senate to issue his warrant. This gives the subject great publicity and affords an opportunity for the accused to escape. Mr. Hoar's idea is to authorize the Speaker to issue his warrant at the request of any committee authorized to send for persons or papers, without bringing the matter up in the House. A good many members doubt the propriety of doing this, however, urging that it gives the committees entirely too much power over the liberty of the individual, and that no arrest should be made except with the concurrence of a majority of the people's representatives. On the other side it is contented that, under the prevailing system, every justice of the peace has more power to arrest than the law-making power itself, and they contend, therefore, that Mr. Hoar's resolution is eminently proper.

St. Clair and Carondelet Bridge.

In the House, to-morrow, the first call of States will be made for bills, &c., for reference only, after which, the special assignment, Mr. Negley will take the floor on the bill for the construction of the St. Clair and Carondelet bridge across the Mississippi. A lively fight is anticipated, as both the Representatives from St. Louis, Messrs. Wells and Stanberry, oppose it, on the ground that it will injure the business of the St. Louis bridge, which was opened last year. The army engineers have reported in favor of the bridge, and an earnest demand comes up for it from the large manufacturing establishments in and about Carondelet and South St. Louis.

Press Gag Law.

If this bill shall be disposed of in time, Mr. Phelps will call up his bill to repeal the gag law, and it is understood that Judge Poland will not let it pass without a struggle, but will defend his action in introducing the original bill.

Select Committee on Southern Affairs.

In the distribution of the President's message, the House ordered that so much of it as related to offices in the South should be referred to a select committee of seven members. The committee will be appointed to-morrow, or next day, and it is understood that they will go South, and especially to Alabama and Louisiana, during the holiday recess, so as to be able to submit a report not later than the middle of January.

Texas Pacific Railroad.

It is reported to-day, that a resolution will be offered in the House to-morrow, to test the sense of members on the Texas Pacific Railroad. This resolution will direct the Committee on Pacific Railroads to consider the bill and to authorize them to report to the House on it at an early day. The friends of the measure have been making a caucus and now feel assured of success.

Philadelphia Custom House.

The agents who have been investigating the condition of the Philadelphia Custom House, have finished their work and are now engaged in preparing the report. It is learned that they will recommend a considerable reduction of force and expenses.

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 12, 1874.

ARRIVAL OF KING KALAKAUA—A CORDIAL RECEPTION—ILLNESS OF HIS MAJESTY.

The train bearing King Kalakaua and suite arrived in Baltimore at 12:20 this morning. Captain Temple, Lieutenants Totten and Emory, and Commissioner Carter, of the Sandwich Islands, were in waiting and were introduced to the King, who seemed in good health. Capt. Temple assumed charge of the visitors, and the train proceeded for this city. At Wilson's station Secretaries Fish, Belknap, Robeson and others, got on board the train, which arrived here at half-past eleven o'clock. The distinguished party was received at the depot by a battalion of Marines and a large crowd, and escorted to the Arlington Hotel.

The King was suffering so much from a severe cold when he reached the hotel, that Dr. Turner, of the navy, was summoned and prescribed, and the royal patient immediately went to bed. The sidewalks of the streets through which the procession moved were crowded, also the windows and roofs from which a view of the King and suite could be obtained. Flags were numerous on all public and many private buildings. Altogether there was a good display.

PACIFIC MAIL INVESTIGATION—ARREST OF IRWIN.

The Committee on Ways and Means, this morning, continued the Pacific Mail investigation. A telegram was read from Richard B. Irwin, requesting Gardiner J. Hubbard to act as his counsel and to engage rooms for him for Monday evening. The Committee informed Hubbard he could not act directly as counsel, but could suggest questions to the committee. Rufus Hatch was examined by Mr. Kasson, and exhibited original checks for $750,000, made to order of Irwin, the Pacific Mail Company's agent at San Francisco in 1872. Mr. Hatch, in the course of his examination, said that he had no information, directly or indirectly, except through the newspapers, that the Pacific Mail Company had ever expended one dollar to influence Congress, and that the company had no desire to conceal or keep secret from the committee, any of their books, records or transactions. Irwin was arrested to-day in New York by the Sergeant-at-Arms of the House of Representatives.

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 13, 1874.

THE KING'S INDISPOSITION.

King Kalakaua is still very much indisposed, in consequence of which no arrangements have been made as to his future movements. He is suffering with a very severe cold and aggravated sore throat. During the day Secretary Fish called at the hotel to see the King, but did not do so, owing to the illness of His Majesty. He communicated a message from the President, to the effect that the President regretted exceedingly to hear of the King's indisposition, and that although the President was suffering himself from a severe cold he would have called upon the King if His Majesty had been in condition to receive visitors. Dr. Turner to-day stated that the royal visitor might be well enough for presentation to the President to-morrow. It is the intention of the President and Mrs. Grant to give him a grand reception at the White House one evening this week, for which cards will be issued. The King will spend about ten days in Washington.

SENATOR CATTELL'S APPOINTMENT—SECRETARY ROBESON'S CONNECTION WITH THE MATTER.

The Secretary of the Navy has been interviewed on the subject of the rumored difficulty between himself and the Secretary of the Treasury. He disposes of the matter, as follows: "There is nothing in it. So far from there being any controversy on the subject referred, it has not been even mentioned between myself and the Secretary, or between myself and the President for the last three months. As I understand the real facts to be, Senator Cattell was appointed, last summer, agent of the Treasury Department in relation to the Syndicate matters abroad, but was prevented from going by the protracted sickness and final death of his wife. Whether it will now be worth while for him to go, in view of the long delay and the fact that the Syndicate contract terminates very shortly, is a matter entirely for the Treasury Department, and upon which I don't profess to have an opinion. But I am sure Senator Cattell will not consent to go, in any event, unless the Secretary of the Treasury desires him to do so."

OHIO NEWS.

The new jail of Shelby county will cost $45,000.

Cambridge is to have a lodge of colored masons.

Portsmouth's five Building Associations have a capital stock of $1,500,000.

The Akron ladies are moving for the establishment of a charity hospital.

A grand musical prize festival is to be held in Akron on the first of January.

Mr. John H. Klippart has received letters from the United States Commissioner.

Trumbull county has thirty divorce cases pending in the Common Pleas Court.

Thirteen widows reside on one street, within four blocks of each other, in Canton.

Five hundred Dayton families are being supplied with wood by the Infirmary Directors.

The advance in the price of pork over last year, in this State, is equivalent to $10,000,000.

A youth named Thomas Fudge, in Eaton, lost an eye the other day while indulging in the exciting pastime of snapping caps on the stove.

The Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company has erected another immense building in East Newark, Ohio. Their buildings there now cover about fifteen acres.

All the known gambling houses of Cincinnati were closed Tuesday night by order of Superintendent Kiersted, who warned the gentlemen that their houses would be raided if his orders were not complied with.

The body of Bernard Mahon, a Toledo detective, who has been missing since November 2, was found in the Maumee river yesterday. The only external mark of violence is a cut two inches in length on the forehead.

A coroner's jury has decided that Mrs. Rosa Trisure, who died suspiciously at Cincinnati a few days ago, came to her death from the effects of an abortion produced by Dr. N. Leaman, an order for whose arrest has been issued.

HEAVY DEFALCATION.

A Clerk in the Freight Department of the Pennsylvania Road is Short $45,000.

A heavy defalcation was discovered last week in the freight department, in this city, of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company. As yet nothing in regard to the affair can be obtained from official sources, but we have information, which is deemed altogether reliable, to the effect that the defaulter is one of the oldest clerks in the employ of the company, he having been in constant service at the Duquesne depot, foot of Liberty street, during the past fifteen years; that such was the confidence reposed in him by the officers of the road, that the usual strict examination of accounts has been omitted in his case for several years, and that now, his books and accounts having been investigated, the astounding discovery is made that the person referred to is a defaulter to the enormous amount of $45,000! Our information concerning this "irregularity," as they term it nowadays, goes that at some time during last week parties connected with the Pennsylvania Railroad Company's freight office in Philadelphia, visited this city, and reported to the officials that they had instructions to examine the accounts and vouchers of the clerks at the Duquesne Depot. From the result of their examination could not be definitely ascertained, but it seems they found that a considerable deficit existed in the cash balance. In order to put the affair in proper shape, if possible, or at least to arrive at a proper understanding, two or three experts were set at work upon the books, and after toiling through formidable columns of figures for two or three successive days and nights, they found the accounts regular. There was an ugly feature, however, brought out quite prominently—one that will astonish all who are at all conversant with the company's careful manner of doing business usually—which is, that the books showed a cash balance of about $45,000 in favor of the railroad company, while there was not a cent of this balance in the hands of the person who was supposed to have charge of it!

It seems scarcely credible that an employee of the great corporation should be permitted to hold in his hands so large an amount of its money for any length of time. The hitherto irreproachable character of the defaulter, and the unlimited confidence which the officers of the company have always had in his integrity, might serve to account for their apparent carelessness concerning his accounts, but only a small amount was involved, but that he could hold the large balance of $45,000, the greater part of it certainly for months, and much of it perhaps for years, is beyond our comprehension.

We understand that the defaulter, when questioned as to the balance of cash in his possession, or which ought to be there, stated that he had no money in his hands, and, without attempting any explanation of the deficit, coolly walked away. He is married, has a family, and owns and occupies a palatial residence on one of the principal avenues of this city. His bondsman, it is said, is a high official of the company, and the amount of his defalcation will be promptly made good. No criminal prosecution, we believe, is contemplated.

Real Estate Transfers.

The following deeds were filed of record in the office of Ralph J. Richardson, County Recorder, December 12, 1874:

PITTSBURGH.

Sixth ward—Henry Jahn to Charlotte Blind, September 1, 1874; lot 21x103 feet, Marion street.....$1,500

Second ward—T. L. Anderson to T. R. Atterbury et al., May 2, 1874; 60x90 feet Second avenue.....2,000

ALLEGHENY CITY.

First ward—James E. Schuyler to Joseph Myers, October 1, 1874; parts of lots Nos. 59 and 60, John Irwin's plan.....100

Seventh ward—John Blind to Louis Blind, December 11, 1874; lot 28x115 feet, spring Garden avenue.....2,000

Twenty-eighth ward—August Ammon to Frederick Rosemeier, August 23, 1870; lot 25x90 feet on Bingham street.....4,500

BOROUGHS.

Braddock—Alva C. Nickel to Henry C. Smallenberger, June 6, 1874; lot 40x96 feet on First street.....558

Believue—Jessie Longmire to Thos. C. Carson, October 26, 1874; lot 93x170½ feet.....500

TOWNSHIPS.

Shaler—John Scott to H. C. Blosdel, May 8, 1873; 52 building lots and.....3,000

Moon—Conrad Schatz to Herman Wicht, December 10, 1874; 54 acres land.....7,250

East Deer—Nathaniel Miller to Margaret Brown, October 17, 1873; 2 lots in Negley's plan.....210

Chartiers—Homestead Bank to C. L. Brudewold, October 6, 1874; parts of lots 33 and 37 Homestead Park.....175

Versailles—James Irwin to R. H. Knox, October 28, 1874; lot 25x100 feet, Division street.....600

Kilbuck—John C. Fliner, ex'r, to George M. Gray, December 1, 1874; lot 2 acres 3 rods and 52 perches.....1,500

THE *Herald of Health* is of opinion that the simple color of one's surroundings has a marked influence on his health. It says: "Yellow on the walls of our rooms has a very depressing effect on the mind. Violet is worse. A man would go mad in a violet papered or painted room. Black rooms, or rooms heavily draped in mourning, produce gloom and foreboding. Never wear mourning long, unless you wish to become sad and sorrowful beyond what nature ever intended."

No Holiday Vacations

at the Iron City College, corner of Penn avenue and Sixth. School always in session, and students admitted at any time.

Buy White River.

See Checkered Front, this page.

Knocked Down and Robbed.

Between twelve and one o'clock on Sunday morning Mr. Patrick McLaughlin, a laboring man, while on his way to the Union Depot, was attacked, knocked down and robbed on Grant street by three men. The calls of Mr. McLaughlin brought officer Sol. Coulson, who chased the thieves but failed to catch any one of them. The officer fired four shots after them, but apparently with no effect, while he himself was struck with a clinker. It is hoped that the robbers may yet be caught.

Reversed on a Technicality.

Henry Hershberger was fined $100 and costs last summer by the Acting Mayor, for maintaining a nuisance in the Thirty-seventh ward, in the shape of a bone boiling establishment. The Board of Health made the information. The case was taken up to the Common Pleas Court, which has reversed the decision of the Mayor, with costs, on the ground that the summons was signed by the Acting Mayor as Alderman, and not as Acting Mayor. The case will go to the Supreme Court, probably.

To HAVE elegant light Biscuits, Rolls, Buckwheat Cakes, Fruits, Dumplings, &c., you should use Dooley's Yeast Powder. Ask your grocer for it. D&W

Use Non-Explosive Oil.

Sold by T. C. Jenkins, Checkered Front. Every dealer should have it.

THE GREAT PATENT

White River Flour

Guaranteed the Best Flour in the country at the price. Money Refunded if Flour is not as represented.

HEADQUARTERS FOR

HOMINY, CORN MEAL,
GOSHEN CHEESE, OIL, &c.

THE GREAT IRISH SOAP.

☞ No Retail House connected.

☞ *Advertisements on this page, under the several heads of* WANTED, FOR SALE, FOR RENT, *&c., will be inserted at transient rates only*—TEN CENTS *per line for each insertion. No advertisement less than* FIFTY CENTS.

WANTED.

WANTED—EVERY SPORTSMAN—To call or send for a price list of Rifles, Shot Guns, Revolvers, Ammunition, &c. Address J. H. JOHNSTON, Great Western Gun Works, 255 Liberty street, Pittsburgh.

WANTED—AGENTS.

WANTED—AS AGENT—A PERSON calling on or doing business with consumers of and dealers in Sand-paper, Emery-paper, Emery-cloth and Imported Turkey Emery. To a man of energy and responsibility a permanent and lucrative commission will be given for Pittsburgh and immediate neighborhood. Address JAMES DALTON, Box 3,000, Orange, N. J.

FOR SALE.

FOR SALE—700 POUNDS MINION type, nearly new. Will be sold at a bargain. Apply at this office.

FOR SALE—AN OSGOOD DREDGE—Machinery and Boat in perfect order. Apply to ISHAM HENDERSON, Louisville, Ky.

FOR SALE—OAK TANNED LEATHER Belting and No. 1 "City Finish" Harness Leather. THORP & DUNNS, 14 Market street.

FOR SALE—RUBBER BELTING AND HOSE—India Rubber Belting and Hose of all sizes and descriptions. Gutta Percha Packing. Gutta Percha Prices. HARTLEY, MCKEE & CO., 58 Smithfield street.

FOR SALE—ENGINES AND BOILERS—New and Second-hand, of all sizes, Stationary and Portable, from 2 to 60-horse power, now on hand. JAMES HULL & CO., corner Main avenue and P., Ft. W. and C. R. R., Allegheny, Pa.

FOR SALE—THREE NEW DOUBLE-FLUE Boilers, 20x36; twelve Portable Boilers, from 12 to 20 horse power; Engines from 4 to 16 horse power; Planing Machines and Boilers. D. L. MASKELL & PORTER, 40 Park Way, Allegheny.

FOR SALE—SECOND-HAND MACHINERY—One No. 2 Smith Tuyere and one Rogers Surfacer; one 8x12 Portable Engine and Boiler; one 8x30, one 9x16, one 7x14 Engines, all in good order. M. B. COCHRAN & CO., 121 Liberty street.

FOR SALE—PATENT REPORTS—A full Volumes, containing a complete list of Patents from the organization of the Government in 1790 to July 1, 1874. Price, $120. If preferred, $20 may be sent with the order, and the balance collected when the books are received by express, C. O. D. Address G. E. N., this office.

FOR SALE — FORTY SUPERIOR Second-hand Boilers, in good order, ranging from 30 inches to 14 inches in diameter, and 10 feet to 40 feet long; double-riveted and cylinder, county inspector's certificate of each boiler with every boiler. Repairing done promptly at the West Point Boiler Works, foot of Twenty-first street. WATSON & MUNROE.

FOR SALE—TWENTY STEAM ENGINES at the Fourth Ward Engine Works, 186 Locust street, Allegheny city. One 14x30, one 13x48, one 12x20, one 12x36, two 12x22, two 10x14, two 10x18, one 9x18, one 9x14, one 9x12, one 8x20, one 8x16, one 8x16, one 7x12, one 7x18, one 7x16, one 7x12, one 6x18, with boilers to suit. Also, one small Lathe, one Shaping Machine and one Drill Press.

FOR SALE OR EXCHANGE FOR good city or country property—A number of valuable and well located Lots in South Chicago, and in close proximity to the Calumet River and different lines of Railroad. Those lots are dry. The Calumet region is destined to be at an early day the manufacturing and commercial point of Chicago. For particulars apply to F. J. KEYS, 96 Fourth avenue, or FLAGG, DURANT & CO., 104 Fourth avenue, Pittsburgh, Pa.

FOR SALE—A SPLENDID FARM OF 128 Acres, two miles of Baden Station, Beaver county; 28 Acres in fine Timber; new Frame House of 8 Rooms; large new Barn, first-class Orchard, 200 trees; nearly level; suits for Dairy Stock or Grain; will watered; can be under R. R. Price $4,25 per Acre. We have some smaller Tracts for sale; 135 Acres in Indian county, price $6,000; and a 250 Acre Farm in Ohio, price $15,000, for exchange. STEVENSON & WITTMAN'S Farm Agency, 198 Penn street, Pittsburgh, near St. Clair Hotel.

ELECTION NOTICES.

FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF BIRMINGHAM.—The Annual Election of the Directors of this Bank will be held at the Banking House, on TUESDAY, January 12th, 1875, between the hours of 2 and 4 P. M.

JOHN C. REECH, Cashier.

Pittsburgh, December 12, 1874.

TRADESMENS' NATIONAL BANK.—The Annual Election for Directors of this Bank will be held at the Bank, on TUESDAY, January 12th, from 11 A. M. to 1 P. M.

CYRUS CLARKE, Jr., Cashier.

Pittsburgh, December 12, 1874.

PEOPLE'S NATIONAL BANK.—The Annual Election of Directors for this Bank will be held at the Banking House, on TUESDAY, January 12, 1875, from 11 A. M. to 1 P. M.

W. GORDON, Cashier.

Pittsburgh, December 12, 1874.

THE IRON CITY NATIONAL BANK OF PITTSBURGH.—The Annual Election for Directors for the ensuing year, will be held at the Banking House, on TUESDAY, January 12, 1875, between the hours of 10 and 2 P. M.

GEO. E. DUNCAN, Cashier.

Pittsburgh, December 12, 1874.

FARMERS' DEPOSIT NATIONAL BANK.—ELECTION.—An Election for Directors will be held at the Banking House, on TUESDAY, January 12, 1875, between 1 and 2 o'clock P. M.

GEO. E. JR., Cashier.

Pittsburgh, December 11, 1874.

MERCHANT'S AND MANUFACTURERS' NATIONAL BANK.—The Annual Election for Directors of this Bank will be held at the Banking House, No. 61 Fourth avenue, on TUESDAY, 12th day of January, 1875, between the hours of 11 A. M. and 1 P. M.

W. SHAW, Cashier.

Pittsburgh, December 12, 1874

The Commercial.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 14, 1874.

"LIMITED liberty" is what the South says it desires to impose upon the negro, which is simply another term for modified slavery.

WILL they stick? The majority of the Pacific Railroad Committee are understood to be determinedly opposed to the further subsidizing of railroads.

IT LOOKS now as if WALLACE was likely to be elected United States Senator, from this State. The New York *Tribune* has entered the field against him.

THE editor of the *Courier-Journal* always arrays himself in a clean frilled shirt and a dozen cocktails before sitting down to his arduous daily journalistic labors.

A BIT of satire. A resolution is to be offered in Congress to-day, making inquiry into the proceedings of Government in the matter of the recent *safe*-burglary conspiracy.

MR. ROBERT R. HITT, of Illinois, has been appointed by the President Secretary of Legation at Paris. In making this appointment the Administration is regarded as having made a lucky hit.

PHILADELPHIA does not make a great deal of noise over the steady growth of her trade, but it is developing none the less rapidly for all that. Its imports, alone, thus far this year, are $802,791 47 in excess of those for the same period last year.

WE BELIEVE it was at Vicksburg that the order of the "Blue and Gray" was formed a few months since, and that it was to bring about the complete ascendancy of brotherly love in the South. It does not appear to have been very successful in the place of its formation.

THE value of last week's exports from Philadelphia amounted to $195,468. Since the first of January 70,680,918 gallons of petroleum have been exported from that city to foreign ports. On Saturday there were in port, loading and unloading, 138 vessels of different classes.

THE Chicago papers state that when KALAKAUA approached that city, the other day, he exclaimed, enthusiastically: "Now, that is something like a city. Level, like Honolulu; not up hill and down dale like San Francisco." So-lom, also, we believe, was a city of the plain.

FERNANDO WOOD does not want the session of the next Congress to organize on the fourth of March next, and prefers it shall not meet until the first Monday of December next. "Sufficient unto the day," he says, "is the evil thereof." The evil of that day will be much more than sufficient for it.

JUDGE BLACK says that some other Democrat than himself will be elected United States Senator from this State, one who can lift up the old Commonwealth and "wipe all the shames of the past from her queenly brow." As he will probably be a copperhead, it is natural Judge BLACK should look upon him as a wiper.

THE "Saratoga Combination" of railroads is said by the Chicago *Tribune* to be more potent now than ever. It has now brought in the Grand Trunk road to act with it, and the Baltimore and Ohio road is its only opponent. The latter road having put fourth-class freight from Chicago to Baltimore down to 35 cents per 100 pounds, the Saratoga Combination responds by putting the rate down to 35 cents on the same class from Chicago to New York.

THE conviction of young Pomeroy, the boy-murderer, of murder in the first degree, at Boston, leaves the authorities no alternative but to hang him. The jury recommended him to mercy; but as they showed him none, themselves, their recommendation will have but little weight. If the boy was insane, why did they not say so? It is horrible to think of stringing up a child on the gallows; but juries will have things their own way.

IN REVIEWING the present business outlook, the *Financial Chronicle* institutes a comparison between the monetary situation a year since, and now, and finds much encouragement in the contrast. For twelve months the country has been practicing economy, and with a check of business has come an accumulation of savings. These savings are capital, and capital cannot long lie idle without setting the wheels of industry in motion. When the reservoir is at its level it will again overflow, and that time, the *Chronicle* thinks, is now quite near.

THEY want to exclude the people of the District of Columbia from all part in its government, and transfer all the forms of government to Commissioners. These Commissioners, if they are ever authorized, will be appointed by the same power that has heretofore appointed the courts of the District, and the courts so appointed have shown themselves as incapable of governing as the people possibly can be. The entire proceedings of one of its regular terms last lately so long, on account of illegality. If the Commissioners are no better than the courts, the District will be as poorly governed by them as ever.

THE Chicago *Tribune* of Saturday publishes a somewhat remarkable letter from an erring clergyman. The writer of it was, until recently, pastor of a Universalist church at Grand Rapids, Mich. He was charged with improper connection with a young woman, and instead of denying the fact, or laying the blame upon the woman, he frankly confesses his guilt, charges it upon his own weak and unguarded soul, and craves the pity and compassion of mankind and the forgiveness of his Maker. The whole spirit of the disclosure is in striking contrast with the usual Machiavellian tone of clerical "statements" with reference to lapses of similar character.

ACCORDING to the latest news from England, the feeling excited by GLADSTONE'S pamphlet has abated very little, if any. Every day some independent English Romanist appears in private, repudiating the Pope's claim to infallibility and other dogmas of his church, a fact which can hardly fail to have an important bearing on the future history of the religious warfare in that country. The most recent revelation of interest in connection with the matter is, that two Irish priests who have just left the Catholic Church have written a letter to Archbishop MANNING, in which they support GLADSTONE'S view that those who obey the Papal decrees cannot possibly pay due allegiance to the civil power.

THE entire pith and kernel of the whole financial question is, whether it is wise to force specie payments before the industry and production of the country are ready for the change? And yet that is precisely what the President and the Secretary of the Treasury, as well as the great bankers and merchants of the Eastern States want. The latter think that New York and its merchant princes, and the great colony of foreign agents and shippers, will make money when the people in the Middle and Western States are cramped and losing. It is the policy of England to resist the rising commerce of this country, and the immediate resumption movement simply represents foreign ideas and foreign interests—neither more nor less.

THERE seems at length, to be a general and practical movement in Boston touching the present and prospective demands of the commerce of that port. The approaching completion of the Hoosac tunnel route, with the contemplated opening up of the Boston, Hartford and Erie line, and the Poughkeepsie route, thus tapping the commerce of the great lakes, and the coal fields of our own State, would seem to show that the merchants of the Hub are on the eve of organizing a great through route to the West, possessing what the city of Baltimore has just come in possession of by the running of through trains between that city and Chicago, to the manifest advantage of Boston with reference to the export trade of the country.

"THE Cincinnati *Commercial* hears of New York Democrats—lots of 'em—who regard Fernando Wood as the coming man for the Presidency in 1876."—*Springfield Republican.*

Why not? He possesses all the requisite qualifications. He was almost a rebel when the war broke out, and a good deal worse, for he was a traitor to his own State. His reputation for knavery and trickery is also firmly established—reaching back to the times when he was Mayor of New York. More recently he was an outspoken salary-grab defender, and pocketed the money. A thorough-going representative of the spirit of political reaction and corruption, he would seem to be exactly the sort of man whom his party should delight to honor.

PROFESSOR SEELYE ON INDIA.

Professor J. H. SEELYE, of Amherst College, lately elected a member of Congress, a few evenings ago delivered a lecture in New York on the subject of India. Professor SEELYE, as some may remember, visited India two or three years ago, and spent some months there lecturing on the evidences of Christianity. His lectures were in the English language, and if missionary letters did not exaggerate, his audiences, consisting of Hindoo graduates of the colleges familiar with English, were not only very large but very deeply impressed by the force and clearness of his argument. Professor SEELYE'S abilities and attainments are, no doubt, greatly superior to the abilities and attainments of the average missionary, and it is not at all unlikely that "Young Bengal," as the class to whom he discoursed is often derisively called, listened with some surprise to a Christian advocate of real power, one capable of placing the claims of Christianity on the intellectual level with which they were familiar in books. "Young Bengal" would of course say that they were impressed, and there was no great harm, perhaps, in taking them at their word. We have not heard, however, that any of the class have given practical proof of having been either convinced or converted.

In his lecture the other evening, Prof. SEELYE stated that "there are tens of thousands of educated Hindoos who speak the English language to perfection, as well as any person in this assemblage. They speak Baconian English, the English of the classics. NARAYAN SHESHADRI whom you had with you during the Evangelical Alliance, is not by any means an extraordinary specimen." As a general statement in a popular lecture, this might possibly pass without criticism; certainly in view of the lecturer's opportunities it is not strange that he made the statement. But compared with the information of persons better acquainted with the subject, the statement requires considerable qualification. Persons long resident in India tell us, that, while young Hindoos, especially those of high caste, possess remarkable facility in learning English, and while a few young men of persistent character attain wonderful mastery both in speaking and writing the language, the great majority never speak it "to perfection." They do, as Mr. SEELYE says, speak "Baconian English:" he might have added Shakespearian English, and Spenserian English. In fact, they use the obsolete words, phrases, and idioms they find in their class-books, and often mix them in the strangest and most ludicrous manner with current terms, misapplying both. The copiousness of their vocabulary and their fluent use of it, however, never fail to astonish their English interlocutor, who, if of a sympathetic or indulgent spirit, seldom fails at first to give them more credit than they merit. We need hardly say that the great, all-powerful motive which impels Hindoo students in studying the language of their conquerors is the hope of employment under the Government.

To those who have paid some attention to East Indian matters it is surprising to find Prof. SEELYE repeating as true the most atrocious traditions of Hindoo barbarity gendered by panic and cowardice during the memorable mutiny of 1857. Indeed, imagination seems to have been busy since and to have invented horrors more horrible than any mentioned or dreamed of when the rebellion was a passing event. The Professorial M. C. tells not only "how the Hindoos rose and butchered every man, woman and child of European extraction *except two*," but "how they took high-born English ladies, stripped them naked in the streets, and then *literally made them drink the blood of their own children after those children's legs and arms had been cut off to furnish the blood.*" A column might be filled with a catalogue of the cruel enormities which, reported in private letters from India, appeared in the British newspapers while the rebellion was in progress; but so far as we recollect, nothing quite so diabolical as this latter trait was then thought of. There were people in India who, thinking it necessary to arouse Sir JOHN LAWRENCE to England, deliberately invented and described atrocities which had no existence except in imagination. By these means it was hoped that the English people would be inspired with the rage and energy demanded by the occasion. Most of the atrocities, however, were reported in good faith; that is, by persons who fully believed that they had taken place. The mere truth was sufficiently horrible, the indiscriminate massacre of men, women and children; hence, when an unscrupulous native Christian or half-caste plausibly related some additional horror, the tale was readily accepted as true, especially by those accustomed upon religious grounds to regard heathens as constitutionally predisposed to do whatever is vile and abominable.

As to the truth of the matter, wherever the facts were carefully investigated, the allegation of atrocities over and above the mere killing failed to be established, a result confidently anticipated from the first by strengthened readers of the Government will all acquainted with the people. It seems, however, that at least some of those who most easily believed the original stories, still continue to repeat them, and they doubtless were Prof. SEELYE'S informants. In the long run it would be better for their cause to accept and tell the truth, if possible. By the Christian tendency which misjudges the heathen TACITUS was probably led into the monstrous error of thinking and telling Christianity a "execrable superstition," and by the same spirit lesser heathen of to-day may be equally misled. It is a malignant spirit properly alien to Christianity, and yet even in Christian lands it works deadly mischief.

AT LEAST a dozen children resembling CHARLIE ROSS have been discovered in various parts of the country, and all of them in charge of suspicious characters. None of them happened to be the genuine CHARLIE; but all of them, probably, had been stolen from their parents, whose hearts are yet aching to know of their whereabouts. And when to this consideration is added the certainty that all stolen children cannot possibly resemble the lost Philadelphia child, it follows that there must be a great many other lost darlings wandering about in the care of their captors, who have escaped arrest from the fact that the children in their hands did not answer the advertised description of the boy for whose recovery so large a reward was offered.

IT IS almost impossible to imagine a meaner trick than that which a correspondent of the Providence *Journal* ascribes to the authorities of a town in Rhode Island, to whose tender mercies an orphan boy and girl were left. The story is told as follows:

A meeting of the local authorities was held to decide upon some action that would relieve the town of the expense of supporting the children. The matter was discussed freely, and in an adjourned meeting held at a private residence the children were required to be present, and this was the way the case was managed. The boy was told to go into an adjoining room, where he would find a man asleep, in a certain pocket of whose clothing was a five cent piece, which he was to bring to the committee. The boy obeyed the order. The girl was sent to another room, where a woman was sleeping, from whose pocket a piece of money or scrip was to be taken. She also obeyed the instructions given her, and the children were afterwards arrested on a charge of petit larceny, tried, found guilty, and sentenced to the State reformatory school during their minority.

What a pity there had not been some sharp lawyer present to sue these town authorities for criminal proceedings, as being accessories before the act.

IN THE the new volume of Poe's poems, edited by R. H. Stoddard, the editor in the preface thus gives the last scene in the life of Poe: "He started from Richmond October 2d, 1849, and arrived at Baltimore between trains and unfortunately took a drink with a friend—the consequence of which was that he was brought back from Havre de Grace in a state of delirium. It was on the eve of a municipal election, and as he wandered up and down the streets of Baltimore, he was secured by the lawless agents of a political club and locked up in a cellar all night. The next morning he was taken out in a state of frenzy, drugged, and made to vote in eleven different wards. The following day he was found in a back room in the political headquarters and removed to a hospital. He was insensible when found, and remained so on Sunday, October 7. The doctor and nurse were with him when he first showed consciousness. 'Where am I?' he asked. They answered, 'You are cared for by your best friends.' After a pause, in which he seemed to recall what had occurred, and to realize his situation, Poe replied, 'My best friend would be the man who would blow out my brains.' Within ten minutes he was dead."

It seems to take a long while to set that Jewell in the Cabinet.

GENERAL AND PARTICULAR.

Fashionable smugglers are nothing but high-toned sneak thieves.

The *Post* sneezes lustily whenever the Southern White Leaguers take snuff.

Over fifty reporters of different nationalities are on hand at the Von Arnim trial.

If you do not want your holiday trade to fall off, keep your claims before the public.

Mr. and Mrs. Best were divorced in Washington last week. They feel better now.

Rich gold quartz has lately been discovered in Sitka, but the miners are suffering for food.

Milwaukee is called the "Cream City," because the bricks of which it is built are of that color.

Quite thrifty. General Butler pocketed fees to the tune of $80,000 in the Farragut prize cases.

The postal card factory has sent out about 20,000,000 cards this quarter, and about 5,000,000 are in store.

A new and successful invention is the steam shovel, which enables two men to do the work of five.

Over a hundred steamboats for New York canal navigation will be built on the Hudson river, this winter.

New Jersey has the premium penitentiary. Last year it made a clear profit of $45,234 out of its State's prison labor.

Tempore mutantur. In the olden times the country bowed low to King Cotton; it does not bow at all to King Calico.

It is the intention of the Canadian Government to take a vote next session for pensioning its veterans of 1812-14.

Germany is going to unify its methods of procedure in civil, criminal and bankruptcy cases throughout the empire.

Country and city have both begun to put on their annual smile of good humor, wherewith to welcome Christmas in.

The West earnestly protests that she does not want any more young men without capital. She cannot feed them.

Let the ragged and half famished settlers in Kansas and Nebraska have occasion to remember Pittsburgh kindly on Christmas day.

The coinage of trade-dollars during the fiscal year amounted to $6,558,000, the greater portion of which were exported to China.

The New York Board of Trade has established a bureau for the promotion of technical education in connection with manufactures.

The grasshoppers that have devastated Kansas do not hop; they fly. One cloud of them was recently three days in passing a certain point.

And now again arises the beautiful question which has arisen so many times before, what shall we give the little children for their Christmas?

Owing to the hard times, the "swell" people of Providence are pawning their jewelry; one broker lately received $3,500 worth in a single day.

Of course it is not against the Grangers as men, if their officers do now and then decamp with the funds. But the practice is becoming quite general.

General Butler says that if the servant girls of Massachusetts were to demand the payment of their wages at once, it would precipitate a monetary crisis.

All things point to a near Christmas day. The very odor of the fresh evergreens shouts "Christmas is near," as unmistakably as the voices of the children.

Well; even if we do believe in "the immortality of all intelligent creatures," the St. Louis *Dispatch* man needn't scowl. He isn't included in the category.

If you are too poor to contribute anything to the Western grasshopper sufferers, kill a burglar. Either act will stamp you as a practical philanthropist.

The Quebec *Gazette*, the oldest paper retaining its name, and published without interruption on the continent, has lately been sold. It was established in 1764.

A writer on American slang in a London paper derives "loafer" from lover, as a do-nothing, whereas it comes down from the German *laufer*, a runner or gadder-about.

Isn't it of considerably more practical importance at the present moment to put morals into the politics of the country than the name of the Deity into its Constitution?

The production of milk in New England increased between 1830 and 1870 from $55,000 worth to $3,000,000 worth. Its additeration has meanwhile been greatly reduced.

The new chief of the New York *Herald* bureau in Washington, Charles Nordhoff, is to have a fine furnished house, and is expected to entertain Cabinet officers, Senators, Representatives and other great people there.

And now it is prophesied that "this generation shall not pass away before every person can read others' thoughts." The saints forfend! After that comes universal insanity.

At all events there is one branch of industry prospering. Twenty-nine new distilleries were started last month, and the increased product over that of October was 30,575 gallons.

Notwithstanding the excessive hot summer and long drought, an excellent crop of cane was produced throughout Southwestern Georgia and Florida, and it is yielding satisfactorily.

Seven thousand mechanics and two thousand laborers have left the New York unions since 1873, being about twenty per cent. of the strength of the organizations as they stood a year ago.

The output of minerals in Great Britain last year amounted to the value of £59,470,486, exceeding that of the previous year by half a million. The coal product composed £16,311,143 of the total.

Congress, evidently, is strongly in favor of another overhauling of the affairs of the Freedmen's bank. The fact that only $69,000 can be realized out of $3,000,000 of deposits, does not look well.

The surplus of idle capital on the Pacific coast seems to be steadily on the increase. Money lending overtops all other business in San Francisco, private citizens opening offices to dispose of their own capital, and laboring men and servant girls joining in the army of lenders.

The Honolulan Superintendent of Public Works is preparing material for a monument to Captain Cook. If a suitable inscription is needed, let it be: *"Ilie jaset Captain James Cook: alat—a grand fangum."*

The Polar Sea has been remarkably free from ice this year. The Pacific whaling fleet sailed farther east past Point Barrow than ever before, and it is said that a steamer might have gone clear through McClure's Northwest Passage.

Speaking of the puddlers' lock-out here, the Springfield (Mass.) *Republican* thinks "there is something too much of this public commiseration of all sorts of strikers on the fact that they are losing half a million or a million a week in wages."

PERSONAL.

Senator Buckingham, of Connecticut, is seriously ill, and is not likely to take his seat in the United States Senate, this winter.

Mr. Asa Flower is spoken of as a rising man in Texas politics. "Cometh up Asa Flower" wouldn't be a bad motto for him to adopt. Possibly, too, he may be "cut down like the grass."

"Col." Sam Pike, a veteran Western editor, has just retired from the profession, which he has followed for forty-four years, during which he has started thirty-four weekly papers in various parts of Ohio and Kentucky, and "busted" them all.

Emerson Wright, the newly elected Republican Mayor of Springfield, Massachusetts, has two wooden legs, having lost both of his natural legs by a railroad accident several years ago. Nevertheless, he ran well, completely stumping his opponent.

Mrs. Oren is State librarian of Indiana, and by a law passed last winter performs, during the legislative session, all the duties heretofore performed by the respective doorkeepers of both branches. She has authority to serve processes, arrest Senators, and in short, is sergeant-at-arms of the Senate.

Behold the diligent man, he shall stand before princes; he shall not stand before mean men. An Indiana local paper tells of an individual in that State who, while canvassing his district as a candidate for election to the Legislature, also bought hogs for delivery in November. His profits on the hog trade reached $6,000, and his election was made sure by two votes.

Colonel Charles C. Long, an American officer in the Khedive's army, on duty with Colonel Gordon, in Central Africa, greatly distinguished himself recently in an engagement with natives, while leading a body of Egyptian troops. He was wounded in the engagement. The Khedive was loud in his praise of "his Americans" now in the army in Egypt, and lately at the presentation of United States naval officers which occurred at his palace, expressed himself warmly to this effect.

STATE NEWS.

Oil City people are threatening to "strike" against high rents.

Brown's Bellefonte *Republican* will, it is announced, be resuscitated in January.

The residence of Mr. Judd Blakeslee, in Corry, was burned on the night of the 7th inst.

Dr. W. A. Van Buskirk, of Pottstown, died suddenly on Saturday, of congestion of the brain.

The Philadelphia *All-Day City Item* will, it is stated, soon be changed to a morning paper.

A Northumberland county man wears a suit which cost him $700. He indorsed for a "friend," and that is how it came.

The Scranton *Republican* of the 10th inst. sa——but what's the use, as it was only an unsuccessful attempt at murder?

A meeting of capitalists is to be held in Philadelphia next week, to decide upon the site for the projected Centennial hotel.

Two Harrisburg hunters tramped one day through and over vines of the wood ivy. One of them has since died of poison.

Henry Mosey, Jr., a young man, died very suddenly at Marietta, Lancaster county, on Tuesday, while in apparently perfect health.

Two youths of fourteen, resident in Johnstown, quarreled about a girl, and then fought it out according to the rules of the prize ring.

The Tionesta *Republican* states that several rafts have passed down for Pittsburgh, but says no lumber will be started from that point until spring.

The Delaware river iron ship building and engine works, in Philadelphia, have just concluded contracts for the construction of five iron steamships.

The eighth annual session of the Blair County Teachers' Institute will convene at Hollidaysburg on the 28th inst., and will continue in session three days.

William Watson, postmaster at Delano, Schuylkill county, died on the 18th ult., from inspection of the bowels, caused by eating honey in the comb.

The molasses boilers of Philadelphia consume one hundred and twenty-five thousand hogsheads annually—which is more than that of any other city in the Union.

One hundred men have been thrown out of employment, with four months arrears of wages, at Bonsall & Yard's slate quarries at Peach Bottom, Lancaster county.

The Sharpsburg *Advertiser* says the Allen furnace is working remarkably well at present, having averaged during the past three months thirty tons of iron per day.

There is no clue to the murderers of Thomas Williams, in Luzerne county. The Easton brothers have been discharged from arrest, having proved their innocence.

On the 8th inst. all the workmen employed at the Phœnix Iron Company's new mill, at Phœnixville, were suspended on account of the stoppage of all work for the winter.

A Frenchman was found in Philadelphia who said he was "looking for a home." He had found the door mat, and was looking for the rest of the establishment, when a policeman joined in the search. The home was found.

A young lady in Cambria borough, tired of "going it alone," expects to play successfully a hand in the game of life, since she has married John Rightlower. If is altogether probable she will "order him up" on winter mornings.

An Erie county horse doctor named Brown, finding business in his line exceedingly dull, tried to enliven it by poisoning his neighbors' horses. He was detected and had to fly the country.

Wm. F. Havemeyer, Jr., son of the late mayor Havemeyer, of New York, in New Orleans at the time of his father's death, caught cold on his return, and is dangerously ill with pneumonia and typhoid fever.

The conductor of a Philadelphia street car found a $100 bill belonging to a country market-woman, and promptly restored it to her. The company by whom he is employed make him carry a bell punch all the same.

John Roach, the eminent shipbuilder of this State, promises in the course of a few days to make a full explanation of his connection with the Pacific Mail Steamship Company, a number of whose finest vessels he has constructed.

John Hoffman, who lives near Morgantown, Berks county, and who is eighty-six years old, has cut forty cords of wood since the early part of last spring. He recently cut and split one cord into stove wood, finishing his work before tea time.

The trial of William D. Halfman and Charles Ripley *alias* Canter, *alias* Oslender, &c., was concluded on Wednesday in Philadelphia. The jury, after deliberating one and a half hours, found Halfman guilty of altering the raised certificates, and Ripley guilty of forgery.

Erie's oldest man is James McClairn, a "canny Scot," whose locks have been bleached by the winds of 104 winters, with other seasons to correspond. He is remarkably well preserved, conversing well, and being only slightly defective in sight and hearing. He has used tobacco, wines and liquors moderately all his life, without apparent injury.

A number of gentlemen, embracing many prominent Philadelphians, have formed an organization for the erection of a mammoth hotel in that city, to be completed in time for the Centennial. One hundred gentlemen subscribed $5,000 each, thus giving a fund of $500,000 to begin operations with. The proposed hotel will be located on Broad Street.

The lumber shipped on the West Branch canal, for 1874, foots up 72,670,057 feet at Williamsport; 22,049,000 feet at Lock Haven; and 4,919,445 feet at other points between Lock Haven and Williamsport. The total shipments for the year from the West Branch region, by rail and canal, to December 6, 1874, are 235,786,209 feet, a decrease of 4,677,629 feet, as compared with the same time last year.

A portion of East Bradford township, Chester county, was thrown into considerable excitement one day last week, over the disappearance of two children, aged three and five years respectively, belonging to John Haley. After several hours' search the little ones were found lying in a yard, one and a-half miles from home, covered over with leaves, *in the woods called the Wood,"* and so benumbed with the cold that they would soon have perished.

A new company, lately organized, under the title of the Chemical Copper Company of Pennsylvania, is about building new copper works just below the present Schuylkill Copper Works, at Phœnixville, on the land of Charles M. Wheatley, Esq. The building is to be of frame, 60x70 feet in size. The process is that known as the Hunt and Douglass process, and differs from the present works, in that the ore is not melted, the copper being extracted by chemicals.

One of the New York German steamship companies is threatened with a heavy suit for damages. The injured party is a German nobleman who arrived at New York a few days ago. On the voyage his hat blew overboard, and because the captain refused to stop the ship and send a boat's crew to pick it up, a suit is imminent. The nobleman says the hat was given to him by his mother, and he would not have lost it for all the castles on the Rhine.

A boy of sixteen, arrested in Philadelphia for theft, says he read "Dick Turpin," "Claude Duval," and other high-toned literature of that kind, and determined to be a highwayman. He first learned petty thieving, and became very expert. He is quite prodicent in the use of the lasso, and says that it was his intention soon to purchase a horse, go out upon the road, lasso people and rob them. A girl of the same age had joined her fortunes to his, and the promising pair were to have been married in a few days, when the male partner was arrested.

We have learned that Hon. J. W. Quiggle has just consummated a sale of lands on the waters of McElhattan, Clinton county—amounting to the sum of $45,000—to one of the projected railroads from New York to the west. There are two railroads projected—the "Continental," which runs from New York to Council Bluffs, and the "Pennsylvania Western," from Watsontown, Northumberland county, to Chicago. It is proved by survey that a road from Watsontown to Lock Haven, by way of the McElhattan, will save eighteen miles over the P. & E. road in a distance of fifty miles.

A sad accident occurred in the family of Mr. Perry O. Bushnell, of Auburn, Susquehanna county, on the 4th inst. It appears that Mr. Bushnell, who keeps a store, was mixing some fluid, with which to paint the counter, and that he placed it in a tin vessel and laid it on the stove to boil. Meanwhile he was called away on some business and told his wife to attend to the fluid and take it off the stove as soon as it commenced boiling. She did accordingly and, as she did, it exploded by some means, scalding herself and child fatally. The child was only nineteen months old, and died shortly afterwards. Mrs. Bushnell lingered for half a day, but finally succumbed to her injuries and died.

The Johnstown *Tribune* of the 10th inst. says: An aged, respectable and wealthy citizen of Brothersvalley township, Somerset county, committed suicide on Thursday night of last week, by choking off his supply of wind. He adopted a rather novel method of hustling himself out of the world, as he discarded the use of the rope altogether, and arranged two iron pokers in some manner over the door, by means of which, when placing his neck between them, he was enabled to strangle himself. The unfortunate victim had been in ill-health for some time past, and it is supposed that he was not in his right mind when he committed the rash act. He leaves a large family.

"DIAMOND CUT DIAMOND."

A Speculator Charged with Stealing $6,000 Worth of Diamonds—The Thief Says They were Smuggled by the Owner.

[From the New York Times, 9th.]

Charles Taylor, a young man of good appearance, who claims to be a diamond speculator, was arrested in Philadelphia on Monday morning by an officer of the United States Secret Service Division, charged with having stolen a quantity of unset diamonds, valued at $6,000, from one James F. Johnson, a dealer in precious stones, who resides at No. 223 Mulberry street. From the statement of Johnson it appears that Taylor had been at various times employed by him to sell diamonds and other gems. In August last he told Johnson that he had found a customer for a number of small diamond and Johnson met him by appointment in a lager beer saloon in Bleecker street, and placed in his hands 140 unset diamonds, valued at $6,000. Taylor then excused himself for a few moments, and left the saloon, from which time Johnson did not see him again until after his arrest. In the meantime, however, information reached the secret service force that the diamonds which Johnson claimed had been stolen from him by Taylor had been smuggled into this country by Johnson, and Dr. A. P. Heichhold, a special Treasury Agent, was intrusted with the duty of determining the truth of this information. He accordingly accompanied the officer to Philadelphia, and was present when Taylor was arrested, intending to take possession of the precious stones if they were found on the prisoner. Taylor, when arrested, at once said that the diamonds which Johnson charged him with stealing were smuggled, and at the same time volunteered to make oath to that effect. He was brought to the Bureau of the Secret Service in Bleecker street, and there made an affidavit accusing Johnson of having, for years past, been engaged in smuggling. Mary Shepherd, a young woman with whom Taylor had been living, also voluntarily made affidavit that to her knowledge, Johnson had been engaged in smuggling for several months, and in disposing of smuggled goods, and that in August last he had in his possession the following goods, which she knew to have been smuggled: A lot of jewelry, of various designs, valued at $1,000; a lot of small diamonds, twelve open-faced gold watches, a number of seal-skin coats and sacques, two diamond rings, several sets of ladies' furs, twelve silk umbrellas, twelve quilted satin skirts, twelve coats, several pieces of broadcloth and a quantity of other articles. Notwithstanding the affidavits of these parties, Special Agent Heichhold found himself unable to act against Johnson in the matter, as the law in relation to smuggling requires that the goods alleged to be smuggled shall be produced, with testimony showing the day on which they were landed. In this dilemma Taylor was held on a civil process until yesterday morning, when he was brought to the Central Police Department and delivered to detectives Heidelberg and Dusenberry, who had been in search of him for several months for the larceny of the diamonds from Johnson, who had offered a reward of $500 for his capture. He was arraigned before Justice Murray, at the Toombs Police Court, but Johnson failed to appear and enter a complaint against him. Counsel for the prisoner demanded his release, but on representations of detective Heidelberg, the magistrate remanded the prisoner until ten o'clock to-day, and directed the detective to have the complainant in court at that time. It is supposed that Johnson hesitates to make a complaint against Taylor, fearing that the latter will retort with a charge of smuggling. When arrested Taylor had on two diamond studs, which he said were a portion of the diamonds taken from Johnson.

NICE PLACE TO LIVE.

A City Paved With Silver and Gold.

[From the Virginia (Nev.) Enterprise.]

Our principal streets being macadamized with refuse ore taken from the mines in early days, and being coated with the rich ore that has been year after year sifted down upon them from the ore wagons, are now everywhere more or less argentiferous. Indeed, there is not the slightest stretch of imagination in saying that we never take a step in the town but we are walking on silver—that our streets are literally paved with silver. While speaking of this fact, a day or two since, a young man bet his friend the price of the assaying and "the cigars" that he would take a lump of mud off of the wheel of a team, then standing before them, and would get out of it precious metals to the value of over $5 00 per ton. An ounce or two of mud was taken from the wheel of the vehicle and placed in the hands of an assayer, who was not told where the sample was obtained, and who no doubt supposed that he was dealing with specimens of ores or vein matter from one of our mines. The assay was made, and the assayer's certificate showed that the sample contained, TON, $7 50 in gold, and $5 in silver. After this we may put on airs, even though our streets are villainously muddy occasionally, for the very mud on our boots contains both silver and gold—is not the vulgar mud of the "cow county" towns.

Hard. An Ohio sheriff recently had to convey a "repeater" to the penitentiary on a three-year sentence, his offense consisting in having voted three times onth e same day for the very man who took him to prison for it.

To Shake, or Not to Shake?

Aye, that is the question. Is it better to quiver from head to foot in the parox ysms of fever and ague, or to banish the atrocious disease by a course of that standard anti-febrile remedy, Hostetter's Bitters. There cannot be much doubt as to the response of the malaria-stricken to this inquiry. From every locality on this continent whose inhabitants are tormented with the shivering plague comes an increasing demand for the only genuine preventive and eradicant of malaria proliferous existence. The chemists of fever and ague districts well know how utterly inadequate to do more than give a brief respite are the ordinary remedies of the faculty. Quinine, arsenic, bismuth—what are these but poisonous palliatives, which cease after a time to produce any beneficial effect whatever, and, if persisted in, wreak irreparable mischief upon the system? Every year they are being abandoned by intelligent persons, and that genuine vegetable specific for intermittent and remittent diseases, Hostetter's Bitters, substituted in their place.

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Best Brands of Winter and Spring Wheat Flour,
In store and to arrive. For Sale by
D. WALLACE.

FINANCE AND TRADE.

SATURDAY EVENING, December 12, 1874.

The following is the usual weekly report of the condition of the New York associated banks, as received by wire to-day:

Loans, decrease	$1,494,200
Specie, decrease	248,400
Legal tenders, decrease	750,400
Deposits, decrease	1,224,600
Circulation, decrease	208,300
Reserve, decrease	998,700

The whole report is made up of declining averages and indicates a returning activity in the money market which is gratifying. The course of money is westward, the natural direction of capital at this season of the year. In former seasons the demand for currency during the autumn and early winter has been such as to create a severe stringency and high rates of interest, but this season has been an exception to the rule. The standstill in business, the withholding of the crops by the farmers, who hoped for higher prices, the increased volume of bank notes, have all tended to make the money market easy and the rates of interest low. The continued drain of bank notes from New York to the West is therefore gratifying as indicating a return of trade to its normal condition.

In local matters there is not much change. The effect of the shutting down of the iron works is seen in the view that bankers take of the future of the loan market. Most of the banks are of the opinion that the strike will make money very plenty with them, although it will be correspondingly scarce among the people; as a result, all good paper is readily placed. The money which has hitherto been paid out to the iron men must now seek other investment. Commercial paper, the result of the sales of iron, will gradually disappear from the market, so that good commercial paper will be hard to find.

As a result the banks are looking for this class of investments, knowing that if the stock-out continues any length of time they will not find satisfactory employment for their funds.

In the stock market there is little doing, although prices are well sustained. Pacific Mail is the central figure. The impending investigation into its affairs by Congress being used successfully by the bears to depress the price, it is altogether probable that it will take a sharp upward turn in a few days, notwithstanding the heavy attack to which it is subjected.

—The Court of Appeals of New York city has lately decided two important cases. The first was the case of the Marine National bank against the National City bank, and the second, that of the Bank of North America against the National Bank of the Commonwealth. Both suits were brought to recover sums paid out on checks certified by the banks complaining, and are considered important, as showing the right of a bank, under some circumstances, to refuse the payment of a check even after it has been certified as "good."

In the multiplicity of transactions during the day it is next to impossible for a paying teller to keep the run of the exact condition of every account on the books of the bank, and hence many certify checks "good," which may prove on the settlement in the evening, to be without funds to meet them. In New York it is the custom to certify the checks of brokers during the day, with the understanding that their accounts be made up before the close of business hours. In the cases above noted the drawers failed so to do.

The checks were passed through the Clearing House by the holders and charged to the certifying banks. As there were no funds to meet the checks, demand was made on the banks getting the credit for the checks through the Clearing House to return the money thus paid out on checks. This being refused suit to recover was brought, and in both cases the court decided that the "certification of a check by a bank is simply the recognition of the signature thereto, as that of a person or a firm having an account with and funds in the bank, to which the check is submitted to be certified;" that the money was obtained under misrepresentation, and that the judgment entered on the report of the referee, directing that the plaintiffs should be repaid the difference claimed, be affirmed with costs.

—The Greece City bank of Greece City, Butler county, announces that it will wind up and retire from business during the holidays, the stagnation in the oil trade making it unprofitable to continue business.

—In the Royal Mint at London great care is taken of the "sweepings" of the various rooms and offices. Last year the amount of gold obtained from these sweepings realized more than $11,476.

—The Commissioner of Internal Revenue has moved full heads of prosecutions against the corporations and manufacturers in the East and Southwest who are issuing their own notes, circulating them as money and refusing to pay them when presented for redemption. Many of the parties, however, are settling up with the Government before suit is entered against them.

—Mr. James K. Edsall, Attorney General of Illinois, has written a letter on the subject of state taxes and railroad-aid indebtedness. It is in the nature of an opinion, and the writer contends that the railroads are bound to pay taxes cannot be legally applied to the extinction of such debts. The State Constitution requires that every person and corporation shall pay a tax in proportion to the value of the property owned by them, and has decided that it is not admissible, either under the railroad-aid act of 1869 or the Constitution of 1870, to allow the tax to be imposed on county shall only pay on one-half or one-third of its property valuation while persons and other property in the county are obliged to pay upon the whole. This principle would also exempt from taxation all municipal corporations as well as to others, and it is inconsistent with this to direct taxes collected to be applied in the duty of the county treasurer to pay all taxes collected to the proper officers, and to pay for the schools, etc. It is, moreover, the duty of the county treasurer to pay all taxes collected to the proper officers, and to pay for the schools, etc. It would hold otherwise, although Mr. Edsall's opinion is in accordance with the principle exercised by the Supreme Court of the United States, (Rogers vs. Haeger.) A test case will probably be made up soon.

The following table shows the price of gold, treasury bonds, railway stocks, etc., at the various sessions of the New York Stock Exchange during the day. Furnished by the St. Clair Banking Company, No. 16 Sixth street:

	10:30	11:30	12:30	1:30	2:30
	A. M.	A. M.	P. M.	P. M.	P. M.
Gold	11½	11½	11½		
6's, 1881, coup	120				
6's, 1882	118¾				
5's, 1881	116¾				
5's, 1885	116¾				
6's, 1885, new	118¾				
6's, 1887, reg	118				
6's, 1887, coup	118				
5's, 10	113				
5's, 40	113				
Currency 6's	120				
Central Pacific	92				
Western Union Tel	82¾	82¾	82¾	82¾	82¾
Pacific Mail	39½	39½	39½	39½	39½
Quicksilver	32	32	32	32	32
Quicksilver pref	65	65	65	65	65
Adams Express	114				
Wells-Fargo Express	82				
American Express	61	61	61		
United States Express	74	74	74		
New York Central	102	102	102	102	102
Erie	27	27	27	27	27
Michigan Central	90	90	90	90	90
Michigan Southern	80	80	80	80	80
Illinois Central	97	97	97	97	97
Cleveland & Pittsburgh	87	87	87	87	87
Pittsburgh & Fort Wayne	96½	96½	96½	96½	96½
Rock Island	101½	101½	101½	101½	101½
Pittsburgh	90	90	90	90	90
Chicago & Northwestern	38¾	38¾	38¾	38¾	38¾
Do preferred	61	61	61	61	61
Fort Wayne	102	102	102	102	102
Chicago & Rock Island	102	102	102	102	102
Chicago & Milwaukee	26	26	26	26	26
Do preferred	46	46	46	46	46
Toledo & Wabash	27½	27½	27½	27½	27½
Do preferred	45	45	45	45	45
Wabash Pacific	26	26	26	26	26
Do preferred	41	41	41	41	41
Fort Wayne	96	96	96	96	96
Ohio & Mississippi	31	31	31	31	31
Ohio & Mississippi pref	80	80	80	80	80
Panama	97	97	97	97	97
Hannibal & St. Jos	26	26	26	26	26
Do preferred	40	40	40	40	40

—The following is a report of the prices of leading stocks on the Philadelphia Stock Board, as received by wire at noon to-day:

Pennsylvania Central	81½	82
Pennsylvania Central scrip	105½	106½
Reading, sales	47½	47¾
United Co.'s of New Jersey	129	132
Oil Creek	58½	60
Lehigh Valley	67	67½
Allegheny Valley		91½
Central Transportation		41
Empire Transportation	55	56
Phila. Clr. & St. Louis, m. b	73¾	74
Gold		111½

GENERAL MARKET.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, SATURDAY, December 12, 1874.

The general opinion seems to be that trade in grain, produce, provisions and general merchandise has shown a steady improvement during the past week, and while the volume of transactions could not be said to have been large to-day, it was noticeably improved over the state of affairs in existence two weeks ago. There was no material alteration in values—prices being generally steady and the range of quotations in nearly all classes of merchandise remaining unchanged.

The receipts of the leading articles of produce by rail and river since our last, are as follows:

Flour, bbls	1,545	Apples, bbls	118
Timothy, sks	167	Corn, sks	1,983
Barley, sks	200	Rye, sks	340
Oats, sks	2,661	Butter, pkgs	1,238
Bacon tcs	65	Hay, bales	190

The following table exhibits the receipts of the leading articles of produce by rail and river for the week ending Saturday, December 12th, 1874, compared with the similar receipts for the three preceding weeks:

Week ending—	Nov. 21.	Nov. 28.	Dec. 5.	Dec. 12.
Flour, bbls	8,209	7,587	8,706	12,200
Apples, bbls	2,619	2,091	2,072	1,121
Timothy, sks	1,287	1,287	976	1,545
Corn, sks	4,500	1,005	3,674	19,455
Wheat, sks	3,577	2,042	2,256	1,502
Barley, sks	7,066	6,824	9,130	2,170
Rye, sks	395	1,820	3,310	1,097
Oats, sks	5,854	5,629	7,472	17,525
Butter, pkgs	289	176	223	266
Bacon, pcs		9,569	9,258	3,749
Hay, bales	201	95	180	355
Potatoes, bush	28,028	4,329	1,390	3,395
Hay, bales	2,100	1,888	2,225	1,062
Total 6 days	57,727	44,452	51,471	65,396
Est. all other	20,772	8,845	25,192	6,285
Grand total	78,499	53,297	76,663	71,681
Tot. prev. week	78,866	52,203	78,570	72,000
Pr'd'c'ts Dec. 5	68,501	43,641	52,777	43,919

* 28 per cent. of the whole.

MISCELLANEOUS.

ALES—We quote: X $9 00 ₱ barrel; XX $5 00 @ $6 00; XXX $6 00 @ $7 00; Pale Ale, English ale, In kilderkins of 22 gallons, $24 00@ 25 00; barrels, 41 gallons, $40 00@44 00; hhds, 63 gallons, $52 50@57 00; half bbls, 4 dozen bottles, $20 25. William Younger's India pale ale, in cases of eight dozen bottles, $27 00. Guinness' Dublin Stout and Robert Younger's sparkling ale, $2 25@3 00 ₱ dozen; Guinness' stouts, bottled by A. Burke, $2 25@3 00 ₱ dozen; Cantrell & Cochrane's ginger ale $2 75 @ dozen; Caswell, Hazard & Co.'s ginger ale $1 75 @ dozen. The market is much improved, and trade continues full.

BANNER BAKING POWDER—Sales as follows: 20 cases $1 50 ₱ doz; 15 cases $1 60 ₱ doz; 25 cases $5 50; 5 cases $26 00; 10 5-boxes 40c ₱ lb. Market steady and demand good.

COKE—Trade continues dull, and prices are weak and unchanged. Sales of 150 bushels on cars in Pittsburgh.

ALCOHOL AND BRANDWINES—The market is quiet. Crude alcohol at $2 12½@2 25 ₱ gall. Highwines are steady at $1 05@1 05 ₱ gall.

ASPHALTUM—Trade is very quiet, and so little is doing that quotations are virtually nominal. Soda ashes, refined, $4 00@4 50 ₱ 100 ₱s; common, $3 25@3 50; black lead $5 00; arsenic $5 00; potash $8 50; pearl ash $9 00; nitrate of soda $6 00.

CEMENT—Louisville hydraulic cement $2 @2 25 ₱ bbl; Phœnix hydraulic cement $2 50@ 2 75; Portland cement, prices of imported $4 00@4 00; Youghiogheny $1 75@2 00; Portland cement $7 50@8 00.

CONCENTRATED LYE—Quotations are given at $7 50@8 00 for best quality; second quality $7 50 @8 00.

PAPERS—Baling papers 4@8c ₱ lb, as to quality; manilla 7½@9c; hardware papers 4@6c; bag paper 1½@4½c; felt roll paper, 4@4½c, straw news 7@11c; rag news 12½@13c; book papers 5 @8c ₱ lb.

MINCE MEAT—Is quoted at 10c ₱ lb in a jobbing way.

NUTS—Chestnuts are dull and nearly out of market, at about $6 00@7 00 ₱ bushel; Filberts, lots; in a jobbing way $2 00@2 75. Peanuts are moderately active in a jobbing way at 7½c for red; 9@10c for white, as to quality. Hickory nuts are quoted at $1 25@1 50 ₱ bushel.

PROVISIONS—The market is steady with a shade stronger feeling. Sales from store are moderately active at 10@10c ₱ bushel for prime pearl hominy; medium and large, 7½@8c; small, 7@7½c. Prime Mess pork is quoted at $20 00 ₱ barrel; Medium pickles are quoted at $14 00@15; country at $12 00@13 00. Prime, unfinished, $9 00@10 00 ₱ dozen; finished, $15 00@21 00.

HOP MARKETS.

NEW YORK.

December 12.—The stock is reduced and is now light, and the market is very strong; the indications seem to point to very full prices for good to prime grades from now until the next hop harvest. The sales embrace about 400 bales at 35@36c. The following figures are from Emmet Wells' circular of the 11th inst.:

	Bales.
Receipts for the week	1,238
Total receipts since September 1, 1874	30,501
Total receipts for same period in 1873	30,917
Exports last week	1,332
Total exports (new hops) since September 1st, 1874	11,103

The German markets have deceived every one who pretended to believe, or to make others believe, that the excitement of October would open and sustain the full crop movement. It is now apparent that the crop is not as large as was estimated, in an exclusive state it may be almost sold, even since the new hops came in, and from Saatz and Nuremburg, Munich, and all German hop centers it is said there never has been such a clearance of hops before so early in the year, and that there is already a great scarcity of good hops. This was foretold in *The Brewers' Guardian* on more than one occasion, as it was seen that the accounts of the growing crop in all parts of Bavaria, Austria, Bohemia, Baden, and Wurtemburg were uniformly bad, and only to the end of the picking season. Prices have hardened lately. Saatz choice hops are fetching £18@ £20 15s per cwt; Spalt, and other high class sorts are worth from £11 @£17 per cwt.—*London Brewers' Guardian*, November 17.

The Cooperstown *Journal* of 10th inst. says: Probably not over 1,000 or 1,200 bales of hops remain unsold in Otsego county, and nearly half of those are in two towns. In the "hop district" of this State—comprising the counties of Herkimer, Madison, Montgomery, Oneida, Otsego, and Schoharie—we doubt whether there are remaining in the hands of growers 4,000 bales; in the entire State they may reach 8,000 bales. These will be picked up slowly at what may be the market rates. Some of them are poor hops, for which there is not an active demand, but most of them are held for higher prices. During the past week hops have been bought at 26@35c, according to quality. The home wealthy dealers are holding for larger supply than usual, and some of the brewers have recently exhibited more disposition to stock up. Most of them, however, buy only as necessity compels.

PHILADELPHIA.

December 12—Prime grades are in fair request, but other kinds move slowly. We quote:

American crop, 1874	38@48c
American crop, 1873	15@25c
American crop, 1872	12@15c
Olds, all growths	8@12c
Foreign, 1873	18@26c
Californias, 1874	40@48c

WEEKLY REVIEW OF THE OIL MARKET.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, MONDAY, December 14, 1874.

The following are the receipts of crude for the past week, with a comparison table for previous years; also the exports of refined:

	Receipts of crude per Pa. R. R.	Exports per A. V. R. R.
Monday, Dec. 7	947	.....
Tuesday, Dec. 8	1,417	616
Wednesday, Dec. 9	1,231	.....
Thursday, Dec. 10	2,854	200
Friday, Dec. 11	1,805	675
Saturday, Dec. 12	51,041	.....
Total for week	62,295	200
Since January 1	1,407,752	116,702
To December 14, 1874	1,470,047	116,902
Same time 1873	1,918,046	79,853
Same time 1872	1,679,968	127,570
Same time 1871	1,145,219	99,497
Same time 1870	954,930	136,912
Same time 1869

CITY MATTERS.

Local Observations.

OFFICE OF THE OBSERVER, U. S. SIG. SERV., Room 57, First National Bank, PITTSBURGH, PA., December 13, 1874.

Time.	Bar.	Th'r.	Hum	WIND. Dir.	Force	Weath.
7 A.M.	30.12	26	80	.....	Calm.	Foggy.
2 P.M.	30.00	45	60	S.	Gentle	Cloudy
9 P.M.	29.98	44	92	S.W.	Brisk.	Lt. rain

Mean barometer.....30.03 Highest Thermom'r....48
Mean thermom'r.....42 Lowest thermom'r.....36
Rainfall.....05

Daniel Dougherty.

Daniel Dougherty, Esq., of Philadelphia, will deliver the next lecture in the Library course to-morrow evening. His subject, "American Politics," is a broad one, and will be treated with a masterly hand.

The Perrysville Murder.

James Murray and Frederick Myers, charged with the murder of the farmer, Gottlieb Wahl, were before Acting Mayor McMasters this afternoon, for a final hearing. The accused waived a hearing and were committed for trial.

The Young Men's Meeting.

There was an immense gathering of people at the New Opera House last night, of all ages from the rosy cheeked youth of the white haired grandsire. Every seat was filled and the lobbies packed with deeply interested spectators. It is to be hoped that the meetings now in progress will do much good for the cause in which these young men are laboring.

Military Notes.

Colonel James B. Moore, who has accepted the position of Assistant Adjutant General of the Sixth Division, is the right man in the right place.

Company F, Duquesne Greys, meet this evening at their armory, East Liberty.

The Eighteenth Regiment, Sixth Division, will assemble for drill, at the Central armory, to-morrow evening.

A Settlement Promised.

The hearing in the eighty odd suits against Mr. Rattigan, late ship agent, for embezzlement, was to have taken place before Alderman McMasters on Saturday afternoon. At the hour appointed there was a very large attendance, and Major A. M. Brown and Rattigan's bondsman appeared for the defendant. Mr. Brown exhibited a deed for property made over to him as trustee by Rattigan's wife, from the proceeds of which all the claims would be paid. After some discussion, on the assurance of Mr. Brown and the Alderman that everything would be settled, a month was allowed during which to dispose of the property.

Advertise.

Now is the time to advertise, to make an active holiday and winter trade. Don't be content with knowing that you are personally popular and well-known; but persist in the public becoming acquainted with the goods you offer for sale, and the advantages they gain by dealing with you. As you are well and favorably known, your advertisement would make a still more favorable impression upon the public. Advertisements are read, and when people are on the way to purchase goods, they are like hand boards on the public highway to guide them. They direct people where to go and where to buy. They are constantly telling people and constantly reminding them of your goods and business, while others in the struggle, quiet and retired, are forgotten.

The Democratic Slate.

On Saturday afternoon the Democratic members elect of the State Legislature held a caucus at the St. Charles Hotel, for the purpose of proposing names of persons for positions at Washington and Harrisburg. The matter of the United States Senatorship was first taken up, and James P. Barr was chosen as the candidate of Allegheny county. It is understood, however, that this is merely complimentary, no hope being entertained of securing the prize for the editor of the *Post*. Professor S. F. Patterson was chosen as candidate for Speaker of the House, his contestant being Joseph A. Carson. The Postmastership of the House was put down for Colonel Robert Anderson and a Doorkeepership for Ephraim Jones. A letter from J. F. Temple, Auditor General elect, was read, in which he regretted the appointment of clerkship of William H. Reel, of Allegheny city.

The Board of Revision.

The committee appointed to examine into the propriety of abolishing the Board of Revision, held a meeting on Saturday afternoon, and agreed on the form of a report. As has been stated, the Board cannot be abolished, for two reasons: First. The Constitution prohibits the shortening of their term of office, which does not expire for another year. Secondly, If the Board were abolished, there would be no legal method for making the assessment for 1875, and this is not sufficient time to procure the legislation required. The committee, therefore, will present an amendment to the ordinance, limiting the time of the sessions of the Board to twenty days, which is considered ample to do the work. As the triennial assessment was made last year, it will only be necessary to make alterations where property have changed hands, hear appeals, etc. It is contemplated, in the meantime, to procure legislation for changing the system, and putting the assessments in the hands of a Board of say three persons, to be appointed by the Court. The whole subject of making assessments and collecting the revenue should be revised, and all should be embraced in one act.

Manufacturing Notes.

The rolling mill of Moorhead & Co., near Soho, shut down on Saturday evening. This throws out about six hundred men. The reasons they give for stopping is that they have no orders on hand, and do not feel justified in chancing the spring trade with heavy stock.

Mr. A. Cook, of the Twenty-seventh ward, has received the contract for building a very large stave machine for a Philadelphia company. The machine cuts the staves from a solid piece of oak, and will turn out fifty or sixty per minute.

Mr. Charles H. Mason, an employee of Messrs. Lewis, Oliver & Phillips, was granted a patent November 2, 1874, on a three-armed sewing machine adapted to all kinds of sewing, but especially used to advantage in sewing leather. It is apparently a very complete affair, remarkable for the simplicity of its construction, and promises success.

Dilworth, Porter & Co. are now running full, including their puddling department, which started on Thursday morning, the firm paying the full price asked by the puddlers.

The nail factory and mill of the American Iron Works, Jones & Laughlin's, will be started to-day.

Fruitage of the Christmas Tree.

A writer who, as a boy, evidently experienced disappointment at Christmas time, and has not forgotten it, thus pleasantly and sensibly remarks on the subject of Christmas presents for children: "Over every counter should be written in letters of gold, 'Don't try to humbug the little dears.' Not many years ago, you and I, dear sir. They are sharp, these small Joey B.'s. They know the toy market as well as you do, and they recognize a cheap thing when they see it. We are the victims of careless and unskillful selection. The boy who has dreamed for twenty nights of a rowing-horse gets a book full of scripture texts, containing one dingy wood engraving of Moses in the bulrushes. The girl who has had a fortnight's vision of a doll receives a pocket handkerchief, with verbal direction as to its use. It is too cruel. It has a Herodian savor. It smacks a little of Mr. Squeers; there is a taste of brimstone and molasses in it. In buying for the children remember that this is not fast, but festival, and give the useless a chance. Don't think of your progeny as so many sucking Jeremy Benthams. Don't run entirely to what is cheap in savings banks and costs. Buy to suit the taste or fancy of the little ones, and not your own. Regulate the fruitage of the Christmas tree by this rule, and don't fob off the boys and girls with prudence or parsimony upon the respectable St. Nicholas."

Another Triumph of Enterprise.

We have received the first number of a neat, readable and magnificently illustrated eight page paper published by Mr. William Semple, the great dry goods merchant of Allegheny City, called the *Ladies' Journal*, and devoted to fashion, art, science and literature. We have often alluded to the enterprise which is Mr. Semple's chief characteristic, and it is but simple justice to say that this, his latest venture, is in every way worthy of his wide-spread reputation for performing whatever he finds to do in a thorough manner. Typographically, the *Ladies' Journal* is the handsomest paper published in the two cities, and the illustrations are remarkable for their brightness and beauty. The letter consist of fashion plates and embroidery suggestive of holiday gowns. The reading matter comprises interesting local items and choice selections especially adapted for the ladies and the home circle. From the salutatory of Mr. Semple in this, the intitial number of his publication, he modestly discloses his object in establishing the *Ladies Journal* as follows: "In the last months of the old year, 1874, we present to the public the first number of the *Ladies Journal*. We will only promise our readers that we shall endeavor in the future to make this *Journal* a paper worthy of its name, devoted to the best interests of our American homes. We propose to make it a medium of communication between our patrons and the world of *Fashion and Utility*, as far as regards dry goods; and it will also contain matters of interest to every household." We wish Mr. Semple abundant success in his journalistic enterprise, and advise our lady readers by all means to procure the first number, as they cannot fail to be delighted with it, and determine to receive it regularly.

THE INDIAN WOMAN'S CLAIM.

Continuation of Plaintiff's Testimony—Corroborative Evidence of the Marriage.

The ejectment suit of Meister, assignee of Mary Koba-yah-mah-quit, the alleged widow of the late William Mowry, against Bissell and others, was resumed in the United States Circuit Court, on Saturday, before Judge McKennan. There was a large attendance, and the interest continues unabated. Court remained in session but two hours. Following is the substance of the testimony:

MOWRY AND HIS SQUAW.

Captain Thomas S. Kennedy sworn—Resided in Saginaw; went there in 1842; am employed in the fishing business on a schooner; knew William Mowry; have seen the girl he was said to have married; she was the daughter of an Indian named Perot; had a conversation with Mowry in 1850 in Detroit; I was sailing the *Julia Smith*; was master of her, and Mowry was on his way from Pittsburgh to Saginaw; it was at the Michigan Exchange Hotel; he took me to his room, and opening his trunk took out some articles he was taking to Saginaw; one was a nice shawl he was taking to "his wife," he said; he said he would have his woman dress as well as any woman in Saginaw; he had some smaller things, which he said were for his child—his "little shaver;" he gave me a nice cassimere vest; we walked out together for a short time. At that time a small steamboat plied between Saginaw and Detroit; don't recollect whether the name was on boat or not, but it was in Detroit over Sunday till Monday; after this I frequently saw Mowry at Bay City; at the time I speak of in Detroit I don't recollect whether I was bound for Saginaw or Cleveland; when I got to Saginaw I don't recollect what I found Mowry employed at, but think he was at Mr. Eichins' store; after this I saw his wife at Bay City, and cannot recollect whether they were together or not; had no further talk with him as to his marriage; knew Perot slightly, but not particularly; he lived at Kaw-kaulou; this was a very small Indian town; it is about six miles from Bay City, (then "Lower Saginaw"); Perot had, besides this girl, some other children, but did not know them personally then, nor since.

HIS "BIG DAUGHTER."

Mrs. Abby Greuit, sworn—Am a resident of Gratiot county, Michigan; am forty-five years old and married, and husband living; he is a farmer; went out to Gratiot county nine years ago; we formerly lived at Lower Saginaw, now Bay City; was brought up there; I knew William Mowry, and first saw him in Lower Saginaw; he was with some gentlemen when I first met him, but don't know who they were as to his being married then, I rather think he was not, but believe he was married afterward; he did not tell me so himself. One morning he called into my room with his wife and child, and introduced me to his wife; he did this for pastime; I knew her before as his wife; we they got seated he asked me to admire his big daughter; so I got up and looked at the child; I made the remark that "it looked like him, and that it *had reason* to be so;" they ate their breakfast and then went away; I saw them living half a mile from Lower Saginaw; Mowry and his wife were living there when they left my house; they came on foot; I afterwards saw Mowry and talked to him; I would ask after his lady and baby, his wife and child; he generally said they were well, or the other way; knew the girl before that; she was Perot's daughter.

"I WILL TAKE HER AS MY WIFE."

Orrin Kinney, farmer, aged fifty-six years, and who has resided in Bay City since 1849, testified regarding the marriage:

As to Mowry and Mary, a squaw, I was once in the storeroom with him, Ad. Mowry and William Backus; Mr. Backus said to William Mowry that "he would have all he could do to get Perot's daughter;" William said he'd do his best to get her; I said "it was unusual to marry into the tribe unless he meant to take her as his wife, and treat her as a wife;" Mowry said in reply that he was sincere; he used the words "I will take her as my wife, and treat her as any white man would theirs;" previous to this I don't recollect of having any conversation as to marriage with Mowry; the next time I met him was at Colonel W. P. Stille's store where he introduced the lady to the Colonel as his wife, using the word; saw them afterwards together at Emerson's store (Eldridge & Emerson's); have seen them also together at Lower Saginaw; don't know what I said to them; think the whole family were Perot and his wife, and Mowry and his wife; after this I presume I saw them frequently, but can't recall any particular time; Addison and I built a boat together—the Buena Vista; she was built on the Saginaw, and ran on that stream between Saginaw City and the bay; think William traveled on it the first spring the boat went out; I have carried Mowry and wife in a sleigh on the road from Bay City to Kau-kau-lon; I was going to that place with a team; in crossing the river I overtook Mowry and his wife; he asked for a ride, and I took them in and took them to where they wished to go.

The cross-examination of the above witnesses was immaterial.

There are still a dozen or more witnesses for the plaintiff to be heard, and some twenty or twenty-five for the defense.

The case will be resumed this morning.

PITTSBURGH FINANCES.

Meeting of the Committee—Applications for Reduction of Business Tax.

A regular meeting of the Finance Committee of Pittsburgh Councils was held on Saturday afternoon, Mr. McCune in the chair.

A large number of petitions for reduction of business taxes were taken up for consideration and drew out a lengthy debate. The City Assessor, who had been requested to give information on the subject, reported his inability to do so for want of time. This called for remarks of censure from Messrs. Littell and Glass, and finally the petitions were referred to a sub-committee for examination and report.

The Controller presented a certificate from the City Engineer in reference to the property of Mr. Hagarman, asking to be exempted from paying taxes on one acre of ground which had been taken from a lot of five and a half acres on Hazlewood avenue by the Commissioners on Street improvements. It was referred to Council, with a negative recommendation.

A communication from Councils was presented, asking the transfer of funds from the Street Committee to the Road Committee. Referred back to Councils, with the recommendation that they refer it to the Road Committee and Street Committee jointly.

The Controller presented an indemnity bond from George Shaffer and A. Metzgar for $1,000, to be registered city bond having been stolen from Shaffer's office. The bond was approved.

The Controller presented a petition from Mrs. Mary Ryan, a destitute woman residing in the Fourth ward, whose husband was lying sick with consumption, and who had been assessed $19 and some cents for the same poor which she could not pay by lease. The petition set forth that she had no means of paying the tax, and asking that something be done toward relieving her from it.

At Mr. Aikens' suggestion, a collection was made among the members, and $12 90 was raised for the applicant.

After the transaction of business of no special importance, the meeting adjourned.

PIG IRON.

The Western Furnaces Adopt the Agreement.

We have already given the action of the Eastern manufacturers of pig iron, whereby the production was to be curtailed one-half, in order to correspond with the limited demand for consumption. The agreement was, that this decrease is to be faithfully continued and maintained during the whole of the year 1875, under certain stipulated conditions. The Western furnaces, including those of Pittsburgh and vicinity, the Shenango valley, Wheeling, Hanging Rock and Ironton, acting under the agreement, are virtually in harmony with it. A careful estimate shows that five-ninths of the furnaces in the west are already out of blast, and that the stocks of pig iron in this region are much lighter than in the east. The present production is less than fifty per cent. of the average, so that the agreement made by the Eastern manufacturers has been virtually in force here in advance of that action. It is contemplated, however, to have every furnace company sign the agreement.

A Cause of Complaint.

To the Editor of the Commercial:

Last week the Young Men's Christian Association advertised that a lecture would be delivered this afternoon, in their rooms, corner of Sixth and Penn streets, by Rev. Mr. Alsop, of St. Andrews Church. The announcement attracted much attention and was responded to by a large audience, who assembled at Dr. Howard's church, corner of Penn and Seventh streets. How or when the place for the lecture was changed does not appear, but, at the hour advertised, some fifty or seventy-five ladies and gentlemen, assured by a placard in front of the door on Sixth street that "Rev. Alsop would lecture up stairs at four o'clock this afternoon," went up and sat in quiet expectancy till fifteen minutes past four, when they were informed by a Young Man that the lecture was being delivered at Dr. Howard's church. By this bungling management the lecturer was disturbed by the entrance of nearly one hundred persons, who lost the first quarter of a capital discourse. There are enough officers in the Association to attend to such obviously necessary business as knowing where their lectures are to be delivered and giving the public some intelligible information on such matters; why don't they attend to it? If the Italian vender of fruits under your windows should conduct his business with such a laxity of system and contradiction of signs, he would break up in a couple of weeks—and would deserve his fate.

C.

Sunday evening, December 13.

THE NEW POSTAL LAW.

Local Papers at Letter Carrier Offices—County Papers &c.

In the *United States Mail* we find the following concerning regulations as to local papers at letter carrier offices:

Under this section the postage on newspapers (excepting weeklies), periodicals and circulars in a letter-carrier office for delivery by the office (through the box of general delivery), or by its carriers, is as follows:

1. On newspapers (excepting weeklies,) whether regular or transient, and without regard to weight or frequency of issue, one cent each.

2. On periodicals (other than newspapers), whether regular or transient, not exceeding two ounces in weight, one cent each.

3. On periodicals (other than newspapers), whether regular or transient, exceeding two ounces in weight, two cents each.

4. Circulars, unsealed, one cent each. These rates to be prepaid by postage stamps affixed.

5. Weekly newspapers (excepted above), to regular subscribers, 2 cents per pound.

6. Weekly newspapers to transient patties one cent for each two ounces or fraction thereof, to be prepaid by postage stamps affixed.

SEC 7. "That newspapers, one copy to each actual subscriber residing within the county where the same are printed, in whole or in part, and published, shall go free through the mails; but the same shall not be delivered at letter carrier offices or distributed by carriers unless postage is paid thereon as by law provided.

COUNTY PAPERS.

Newspapers (without regard to frequency of issue), one copy to each subscriber, actually for the time being, residing within the county where the same are printed, in whole or in part, and published, are entitled to pass free of postage through the mails; but they shall not be delivered at letter-carrier offices (through the box of general delivery) or by carrier, unless postage is paid thereon as by law provided.

The section of the law prescribing the rates of postage on such matter is as follows:

SEC. 158. That on newspapers and other periodical publications, not exceeding four ounces in weight, sent from a known office of publication to regular subscribers, postage shall be charged at the following rates per quarter, namely: on publications issued less frequently than once a week, at the rate of one cent for each issue; issued once a week, five cents; and five cents additional for each issue more frequent than once a week. And an additional rate of one cent per each issue for every four ounces or fraction thereof in weight. (Laws and Regulations, edition 1873, page 67.)

COUNTY PAPERS TO LETTER CARRIERS OF OFFICES.

Under this section, newspaper and other periodical publications, not exceeding four ounces in weight, sent from a known office of publication to regular subscribers, are subject to postage, per quarter, at the following rates: except publications issued less frequently than once a week the postage on which shall be charged at the rate of one cent for each issue.

1. On publications issued once a week 6c			
2. "	"	twice	8c
3. "	"	three times	15c
4. "	"	four times	20c
5. "	"	five times	25c
6. "	"	six times	30c
7. "	"	seven times	35c

An additional rate (5 cents) shall be charged for each additional four ounces or fraction thereof.

These rates must be paid quarterly in advance of the delivery of such matter, either at the offices of mailing or delivery.

When not so paid, postage must be collected on the delivery of each copy of transient rates, viz.: one cent for each two ounces or fraction thereof.

COURT PROCEEDINGS.

U. S. District Court—Judge McCandless. Harbaugh, Matthias & Owens, bankrupts. The report of Register Harper on the application of the Second National Bank of Pittsburgh to sell certain securities presented and approved, and the said bank directed to make private sale of said securities and bonds, and after deducting the necessary expenses, credit the proceeds of sale on notes.

Lyman Stewart and others, co-partners as the Titusville Savings Bank. On motion of Roger Sherman, Esq., the time for filing an answer to the creditor's petition in bankruptcy by A. H. Branson extended ten days from this date.

Steele & Co., bankrupts, Crawford county. The hearing on the rule on the Sheriff of Crawford county to show cause why an attachment should not issue against him continued to the 19th inst.

Duncan & Keith, bankrupts, Armstrong county. Petition of Malcolm Hay, assignee for creditors, for order and distribution of certain alleged liens upon the fund in his hands, presented and referred to Register Shafer for examination and report.

James McCord, of the steamer Thomas Rees. In admiralty. The hearing on the various exceptions filed to the Commissioners report on the distribution of the fund in court and continued to the 19th inst.

District Court—Full Bench.

No business of public interest was transacted. The following trial list was fixed for to-day:

TRIAL LIST FOR TO-DAY.

Holthoefer vs. Mittleberger *et al.*; Barclay vs. Lewis; Kelly vs. McKee *et al.* (4); Duncan vs. Morley; Shoe and Leather Bank vs. Hill; Featherstone vs. Sutton; Faas vs. Boeckling; Anderson & Co. vs. Calhoun *et al*; Meyer vs. McKinley.

Common Pleas—Judge Stowe.

J. J. E. Von Mitzell filed a petition for a divorce from his wife, Francese Von Mitzell, on grounds of alleged adultery. Subpœna awarded.

Elizabeth A. Price vs. Eugene A. Price, libel in divorce. The Court appointed Robert N. Frazier, Esq., commissioner.

In the matter of the voluntary assignment of A. W. Erwin & Co., to Wm. R. Boggs, the deed of voluntary assignment was executed and assignee relieved from his trust.

In the matter of the petition of the School District of Chartiers township to condemn property, viewers were appointed as prayed for.

A communication from Councils was presented, asking the transfer of funds from the Street Committee to the Road Committee. Referred back to Councils, with the recommendation that they refer it to the Road Committee and Street Committee jointly.

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ASTONISHING SUCCESS.

The New Fifth Avenue Bank Building—A Magnificent Structure—A Reliable Monetary Institution—The German-American Insurance Company's New Quarters.

When with the failure of Jay Cooke & Company over a year ago, the business of the country received a blow, the disastrous effects of which are still painfully felt, most new enterprises were either crushed out of existence or found their future prospects ruined. But as some men can rise superior to any adverse circumstances, so it is with enterprises for which absolute necessity exists and whose founders and prosecutors are men of foresight, judgment and superior ability. Such men founded and have successfully managed the affairs of an institution which, although it has been in existence but a short time, to-day occupies one of the most imposing and magnificently appointed buildings in our city erected during times of the greatest financial distress. We refer to the Fifth Avenue Bank, which to-day removes to the new three-story iron-front on the corner of Fifth avenue and Price street. As we have intimated, the Fifth Avenue Bank has supplied a want that was long felt in that growing section of our business community, and from its very opening its success was assured.

But one viewing its palatial edifice or beholding its gorgeous internal arrangements, can fail to be impressed with the extraordinary progress of the institution in the few years that have passed since its establishment. The building is an immense three storied iron front structure fronting on Fifth avenue. Architecturally it will compare favorably with the finest edifices in the city. It towers far above any building in that quarter of the city, and being painted white, it stands out in bold relief from all the adjoining and surrounding business houses. But however the passer by may be impressed with its external appearance it is only within its massive doors that an adequate idea of its magnificence is obtained. The counting room is a perfect palace and the scene of richness and beauty there presented is truly oriental. The marble floor, marble counter inlaid with gold, the heavy and highly ornamented wood work, the artistically fresco'ed ceiling, the gorgeous chandeliers and the other adornments of the place as they are shown forth in the light which enters the apartment through the big French plate glass of the large windows cannot fail to call forth the admiration of the plainest and most practical visitor. In the rear of the counting room is a neat little office for the bank's cashier. Passing through this we enter another large apartment finely fitted up and looking bright and cheerful which we are informed was for the use of the directors.

The provisions that have been made for the security of the funds of the institution are thorough. The vault is constructed in the most substantial manner and it may safely be said that it will defy any attempt that may be made upon it by the most skilful and determined robber. The safe is another splendid and substantial piece of workmanship, and its walls are made of alternate layers of steel and iron three inches thick, with corners of angle iron, and is fastened with Sargent's magnetic combination lock. The vault and safe are from the works of the Pittsburgh Safe Company. The creditable manner in which the artizans have performed their work enables them to recognition in this connection. The contractor was William Boyd, of Allegheny, and the architects Barr and Mosce, of this city. The iron front was furnished by Messrs. H. A. Freyvogle & Co., of this city. The marble floor and the handsome marble counter were turned out at the Allegheny Steam Marble Works, and placed in position by Mr. Beggs, proprietor of that establishment, to the entire satisfaction of the managers of the bank. J. Meyer & Son furnished the wood work of the counter and other furniture. The chandeliers are from the establishment of Messrs. Weldon & Kelley. The painting was done by Mr. Wagner, of Allegheny, and the steam heating by the Dennler Bros.

In addition to what we have said of the success of the Fifth Avenue Bank, as is evidenced in its removal into its handsome building as they now occupy, it would seem a work of supererogation to allude to the soundness and responsibility of the institution, the financial ability of the officers and directors, or to point out the advantages that are afforded to depositors. But if we do not choose to elaborate on these points we cannot conclude without inviting our readers to give them their consideration, which they so justly deserve. The Cashier, Mr. F. W. Schenck, who is one of the most active and responsible men in the management, is a most genial and accommodating gentlemen, who fully deserves the popularity and high esteem in which he is held by the directors and stockholders and the business community generally. With the increased facilities now possessed, the Fifth Avenue Bank cannot fail to be more prosperous than ever.

German-American Insurance Company.

The second floor of the Fifth Avenue Bank building will be occupied by the German-American Insurance Company of Pennsylvania, and the fitting up of their offices is being rapidly pushed forward to completion. They will, when finished, be the finest insurance offices in this city. They are light, cheerful and pleasant, and the arrangements for heat and ventilation are unsurpassed. The rooms will be carpeted with heavy Brussels and the furniture will be the finest that can be procured from the well known establishment of J. Meyer & Son.

This company, although one of the youngest, is nevertheless one of the most vigorous and prosperous of our home institutions. Its affairs are in the hands of a most able and efficient Board of Directors, and its executive officers are gentlemen of ability and integrity. The officers are G. H. Meyer, President; H. Neuman, Vice President; Robert Abel, Secretary; J. A. Kaercher, Treasurer, and Ernst Priddat, General Agent. While the success of the company has already been quite satisfactory to all concerned, we have no doubt that it will receive quite an accession to its business in consequence of the increased facilities that will be obtained by the removal.

The capital stock was a few weeks ago increased to $250,000 in order to meet the requirements its large and constantly increasing business, and this fact of itself speaks volumes in its favor to insurers. The company exercising great care in the taking of risks and adjusting all losses with promptness, is in a condition to make a strong appeal to property holders. As it is always the safest to insure in a reliable home company, and as the German-American is eminently such an one we have no hesitation in advising our citizens who have property to insure to call upon Mr. Robert Abel, the efficient secretary and obtain whatever information they may desire concerning the institution before taking out their policies. The close attention given into the workings of the concern and no fears are entertained on the part of the management but that the inducements will be found quite equal to those offered by any of its rivals at home or abroad.

PUBLIC AMUSEMENTS.

Pittsburgh Opera House.

Joseph Jefferson opens his engagement this evening in the ever-memorable world-renowned "Rip Van Winkle." The bare announcement is sufficient to secure great houses throughout the week. The performance is unique. It combines the quaintest humor and most touching pathos, and as more than a quarter of a century's approval of all audiences before whom it has been given. We suggest the securing of good seats in advance.

As a matter of advancement in the plans of the management for the comfort of their patrons, we notice that a cloak room has been opened at the head of the stairs for the reception of outer garments, umbrellas, canes, etc., for which checks will be given without any charge. Mr. Charles Garber presides, and thus polite attention is insured to all.

Gounod—"Bohemian Girl."

The sale of places for the Gounod Club's performance of the "Bohemian Girl" will begin this morning at H. Kleber & Bro.'s music store. There will undoubtedly be a great rush for choice seats.

French Opera Bouffe.

Mlle. Aimee closed her week of opera bouffe at Library Hall on Saturday, the attendance being light at both performances. Pecuniarily the engagement was a failure, which it should not have been.

Trimble's Varieties Theater.

Gardner & Trimble offer a tempting bill of fun to the patrons of their theater, this week. The Faust family, European celebrities, who have just concluded a great engagement in New York, will appear at every performance. They are said to do some very astonishing things in the way of acrobatic feats. The Freeman sisters will remain, and repeat nightly their popular specialty, "On board the Mary Jane." The Barlow brothers, Billy and Maggie Ray, Dick Ralph, Lizzy Clifton, G. W. Hernan, H. W. Williams and other favorites will also appear.

Missionary Report.

The Ladies' Missionary Society of the Second U. P. church, Allegheny, met last evening. Mrs. W. C. Hodge, treasurer, made her annual report as follows: Total amount subscribed by 173 members enrolled by Board of Managers, $780 26. Of this amount I have received 1,575 envelopes containing $949 96. The disbursements were as follows: Sent Dr. Dales to pay for missionary's outfit, $200; sent Wm. Getty, Esq., for missionary's salary, $275; paid to our city missionary salary, $295 82; paid to Misses Gordon and Barr (expenses), $3 45; total disbursements, $774 27, leaving a balance on hand, $175 69.

THE Fayette County Court is now engaged hearing the case of the Commonwealth vs. Mendez Cohen, President of the P. W. & B. R. R. Isaac W. Butler, Wm. Stafford, Wm. Sterns, and Thomas Adams, charged with malicious mischief in tearing down a portion of the Southwestern Railroad bridge, over the Yough river at Connellsville.

ANOTHER OIL FIRE.

The Empire Oil Works Burned.

The Empire Oil Works, situated on the bank of the Allegheny river, at the foot of Thirty-third street, was almost totally destroyed by fire on Sunday forenoon. An alarm was given from Box 65, corner of Thirty-first street and Penn avenue, at about a quarter past eight o'clock. The fire department promptly answered, but when the Chief and companies arrived upon the scene, the fire covered nearly the whole of the works. The fire had not been discovered until it had gained considerable headway, and then the alarm had not been sounded from the nearest box, so that, as stated by a citizen, the flames had a full half hour the start of the firemen. The buildings were but mere sheds, and the oil in the tanks taking fire there was little left but to keep the flames from the adjoining property. This was a very important work, as the new buildings of the Consolidated Gas Company stood on one side and the extensive iron mill of Messrs. Reese, Graff & Woods upon the other. In this the firemen were entirely successful, although the window frames of the gas building were somewhat scorched. The greatest loss to the oil company was the burning of two hundred barrels of refined oil and a large lot of new empty barrels. One refined oil tank and one tank of benzine were saved. The loss will likely be less than $5,000, upon which there is a partial insurance.

Stolen Property Recovered.

The horse and buggy found in the possession of two reckless drivers in Allegheny one day last week have been restored to the owner, Mr. Thomas Hannegan, of Chatham street, who as was stated in this paper, lost the same one night on Third avenue. After Mr. H. had taken possession of his property, Mayor Ficharty received a communication from Arnold Kock, of St. Clair township which set forth that the writer had lost a rig similar to the one described by Hannegan, was therefore arrested but he succeeded in proving that the property was his, and was discharged.

CITY MATTERS IN BRIEF.

THE holiday exhibitions in our public schools are now in order.

JAMES CARR, an alleged wife beater, was arrested in Allegheny yesterday by Officer Noble.

AT HIS own request, West. McKelvey was yesterday sent to the Workhouse by Mayor Fleming.

MISS KATIE BAKER, of the Opera House company, was baptized last evening in St. Peter's Episcopal Church.

PATRICK HENRY WINSTON, formerly of this city, has been elected reading-clerk of the North Carolina legislature.

A NUMBER of Knights Templar delegates to the triennial session of that order, recently held at New Orleans, returned home.

THE newsboys offered the Philadelphia *Sunday Scremship* for sale on the streets yesterday. At least, that's what they said its name was.

MRS. MANLY, a lady residing on Fayette street, Allegheny, fell into a cellar, Saturday afternoon, sustaining severe injuries about the head.

THE citizens of Bellevue and west Bellevue boroughs are moving in the matter of procuring gas light and the improvement of their streets.

ONE of our druggists advertises a preparation for keeping a lady's hands free from chaps. A report that she had no money would no the same thing.

THE annual fair for the benefit of St. Paul's Cathedral will be inaugurated on Monday evening next. It will be held in the basement of the Cathedral.

NOTICE how many fellows have got new hats this season? Know the reason? Well, sis begged for "that old felt hat you know; it would make over so nice."

DIRECTIONS for the treatment of casualties before the arrival of physician are being printed for general distribution in New York. Why not here as well?

THE Fifth Avenue Bank now occupies its handsome and convenient new building, corner of Fifth avenue and Price street. The German American Insurance company occupies the second story.

FIRE was discovered Saturday night in the cellar of Westerman's grocery, on Federal street, Allegheny. It was put out without the aid of the fire department. A candle carelessly left in the cellar caused the trouble.

A SPIRITOUS character was arrested in Philadelphia yesterday, in whose possession were found thirty-one fine revolvers. James Bown & Co., whose store was robbed the other night, are said to believe, answering the above description.

JOSEPH LYONS, a resident of Temperanceville, Thirty-sixth ward, died suddenly, Friday morning, of congestion of the brain, superinduced, it is thought, by excessive drinking. Deceased was an engineer, was aged about forty-five years, and leaves a wife and several children.

JAS. I. BENNETT, of Grant, Bennett & Co., started to Fort Wayne on Saturday, where the firm lost a furnace by fire last Friday. they were insured in city companies as follows: Merchants & Manufacturers, $4,875; Western, $4,875; Citizens, $4,875; Boatmen's $4,875. Total, $19,500.

A TRAMP giving the name of John Bolinger was arrested in Allegheny, Saturday, while trying to sell a watch to Officer Bellaire, which he had obtained through the intercession of the Guardians of the Poor of this city. He will be dealt with this morning as a vagrant.

Now in the early gray dawn do our policemen hear such words as these: "Come, Harry, it's time to build the fire." "Shan't do it." "Come, Henry." "Leave me alone." At the end of another moment the sounds of a struggle are heard, and a voice yells: "Let go my hair, Mary—I cave!"

The Pennsylvania Railroad Company own as 16,000 eight-wheeled freight cars, valued at $513 each; 1,800 four-wheeled freight cars, worth $170 each; 521 passenger cars of all grades, worth $8,500 each, and 879 locomotive engines, worth $14,000 each. The length of the track controlled by them is 1,934 miles.

A BOILER exploded at the coal works on the Christman farm, near Connellsville, Fayette county, Friday morning, injuring Harrison Bales to such an extent that he died several hours afterward. The boiler was an old one for pumping oil from the mine. Bales was a laborer at the shaft, and leaves a young wife and child.

MORGAN DAY, a contractor, who was last week brought before Alderman D. L. Smith, of Allegheny, charged with committing a nuisance, in that he allowed piles of dirt to accumulate on Villa street, has settled the case by agreeing to remove the dirt, or pay one hundred dollars for the removal of the same.

THE Jas. Blackmore boat club, at its election for the ensuing year, selected the following officers: Robert Abel, president; M. McBride, vice-President; Frank Donhue, Secretary; John Whalen, Treasurer; James Daisy, Chairman. They are getting a new one-oared boat built by Coffsinger, of Pittsburgh.

THE will of James McGlinchey, filed in the County Register's office, on Saturday, is short and pointed. It reads: "I leave my sister Catharine $300 in the Dollar Savings Bank. The amount in the safe, about $740, belongs to the Building and Loan Association. I owe $205 to the Union township school board on property. I bequeath the rest of my property to my wife and children. I owe Roger McGlinchey $129."

SKATES, sonny! Why, yes, bless your heart, you shall have a pair of two-inch club skates for your feet, and a pair of six-inchers for your hands, and a couple of hand-sleds for your knees, a hand warmer, and a new pushee of excelsior to upholster your trouser's basement. Let your corse be onward and upward my son, and when you drag your tired, hungry carcass toward Bridget shall have quail on toast ready for you, warm from the oven, and your little sister shall yield her place at the register.

CONDUCTOR JOHN ROUTH has returned from New Orleans, having spent about two weeks in attending the grand convocation of Sir Knights. Routh has traveled about considerably, and when in reply to a query in regard to this New Orleans visit, "that he never had a better time in his life," it may fairly be inferred that the attentions paid to the stranger were out of the ordinary routine. He was pleased with the "sunny South," pleased with the people whom he met, and pleased with the trip generally—and his many friends on Lot 66 and Fifth Superintendent, at the Cemetery, or at the City office,